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INC.

NEW YORK

loose from surrounding sin and set him on the path that leads toward Godliness; power, through the service of those who grasp and use it, to lift the social life of the community to a higher moral level. Seed and soil—the seed of the Gospel of Christ, intended directly and personally for them: the hard and stony soil which the seed cannot penetrate, the thorny where the young shoot cannot live, the good soil that bears fruit, some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred fold.

This was our message to the audience at Yunohana. They heard us with a respectful, thoughtful attention, and at the close of the meeting silently retired. Yamaki San went to the bath intending

to mingle with the men and learn what kind of conversation these addresses would inspire. He returned soon and reported that no one had entered the bath after the meeting. This was contrary to all his previous experience.

Next day, in the bright sunlight, we climbed a little way up the hill on the opposite bank of the stream and looked toward the inn. It was a long low building at the foot of the snow-covered mountain, to the right a *torii* and a long flight of stone steps leading to a little shrine, in front a bridge spanning the stream. We watched our host at the head of a little group of villagers crossing the bridge, and shot the whole scene with the Filmo.

A Garland of Tributes to Dr. Robert Elliott Speer at His Fortieth Anniversary as Secretary, November 2, 1931, by His Fellow Secretaries

By ALLEN R. BARTHOLOMEW



DR. ROBERT E. SPEER

Dr. Canon Gould was kind enough to tell me, "We all shall envy you the privilege of conveying to those present the general sense of Dr. Speer's worth and service," and then he paid this tribute, "I know of no man, of our day and generation, who by his endowments of tongue and pen has conferred greater benefits upon the Church at large."

Dr. Patton has well said, "I do not envy you your task if you are to condense in one brief address all the interesting things that will be said by Dr. Speer's many friends of the various Boards. Still less do I envy Dr. Speer the necessity of hearing all those things said. My first meeting was at Boston when Speer was comparatively young. As the audience went out under the spell of his vibrant voice a lady remarked, 'What must it be to be the mother of such a man!' That was a question just one woman could answer, and perhaps not she."

In order that I might partly qualify for this unusual occasion, I wrote to a coterie of Secretaries asking them to send me their estimate of Dr. Speer, as a friend of the Boards and as a leader in the work of Foreign Missions. I hope the forty

It is a high honor and a real pleasure to bring to you, my dear Dr. Speer, the greetings of the Boards of Foreign Missions of North America—a host of your most ardent friends. I wish to thank this great Board of Foreign Missions, in whose presence we are assembled, for inviting me to come from Pennsylvania, the natal state of Dr. Speer, and to join in the grand chorus of praise filling this Assembly Room. Let me remind you, one and all, that our good and faithful Secretary hails from a most illustrious family in the Keystone State.

Secretaries will bear in mind that the extracts from their letters do not represent all they have said or would like to say.

The reply of Miss Lyon greatly pleased me, "As for your label given him, 'a friend of the Boards,' what could I say on the subject when he is the husband of the Mrs. Speer who has been President of the particular Board I served for 16 years?"

Knowing a weakness among some men for fulsome praise, Dr. Wood served this warning, "In order to tell the truth about Robert Speer, one would have to draw upon all the superlatives at his command. I realize that you will exercise suitable restraint. As a leader in the work of Foreign Missions, Speer, to my mind, is the outstanding figure in the world today and has been for these many years. His power as a speaker, his vigor as a writer, his clearness as a thinker have been invaluable to other Boards."

Dr. de Schweinitz, out of a long and rich fellowship, confesses, "It is manifestly impossible to say in a few words what Dr. Robert E. Speer has been to the entire Foreign Mission enterprise and what an inspiration he has been to all Mission Boards and their Executive Officers. What his friendship and fellowship have been to me personally I cannot easily describe."

It was rather a startling revelation to me that Dr. Speer, as Secretary of the Board, is one year older than the historic Foreign Missions Conference. As such Dr. Barton very deservedly entitles him, "the Dean of all Secretaries of all the Boards and in many ways. Time and honors and responsibilities seem to make no inroads upon his versatility or put check upon his activities. Of course, we have made up our minds to the fact that Dr. Speer will have no successor. Secretaries will follow him but they will never succeed him in his noble record of his achievements, in his many spheres of distinguished activities."

"In the early organization of the Foreign Missions Conference he took an active part," says Dr. Warnshuis. "He was one of the outstanding leaders in the World Conference in Edinburgh in 1910, in the Conferences for Latin America at

Panama, and Montevideo, and Havana, and at the Conference in Jerusalem. Under his leadership and with his support and his influence the Presbyterian Church participates in more union institutions on the mission field than any other mission board in the world."

Dr. Diffendorfer declares, "His long and rich experience, his own deep devotion to the cause of Christ throughout the world and his courageous advocacy of the cause of Foreign Missions have constituted in him an inspiring example to us all."

Knowing Dr. Drach as I do, it was no surprise to me to have him break out in saying, "Dr. Robert E. Speer is the *primus inter pares*, the first among equals, the man to whom we confidently turn for a definition of a policy for the solution of a problem in the common missionary endeavor. He has a heart of brotherly love."

"The two words," says Dr. Chamberlain, a bosom friend, "that always come to my mind in connection with this servant of the Church and servant of God are 'strength' and 'power,' the strength that he has gathered through these years of rare and rich experience and the increasing power which he is exercising by reason of it."

It is the judgment of Dr. Armstrong that, "The name of Dr. Robert E. Speer is known better than any other among the friends of missions throughout the entire Christian Church. We all love him for his personal qualities and leadership as we look up to him in matters of missionary policy and apologetics."

The venerable Dr. North says, "For over 40 years, many of them in rather close fellowship with him, he has been to me in a high sense, strength and comfort. Of course it is his personality which counts most." And the son, Dr. Eric North, adds, "To all of us will occur the depths of his rootage in vital faith in Christ, his readiness to listen, his remarkable capacity for being ahead of his work and his sense of humor."

"One hesitates to say anything concerning Dr. Speer," so writes the wise brother, Rev. Mr. Bonsack. "I can only offer my

testimony to his wonderful contribution to the cause of Missions."

Dr. Cram says, "Missionary Secretaries of all Boards desire to have his final judgment on all questions. His clear insight of all missionary problems and tasks coupled with years of administrative experience makes him perhaps the most valued leader in the field of applied missions."

Jesse R. Wilson insists, "Clarity of judgment, keenness of insight, depth of conception and capacity for sustained and unaltered endeavor seem to mark him to an almost incomparable degree. Surely no one is so Christo-centric in his every thought, ideal, and aspiration."

In gleaning from the sheaf of letters in my possession, I am led to believe that one of the greatest influences in the life of Dr. Speer has been his contact with the youth of the land.

"It was largely under his influence that I volunteered for Foreign service thirty-six years ago," says Dr. Corey, "and he has been one of my greatest inspirations ever since."

Dr. Colton confesses, "The debt I owe Robert E. Speer dates back to student days and my earliest service as a Y. M. C. A. student secretary."

Mr. Fay Campbell bears this significant tribute: "It is the most unusual thing in the world, I think, to see a man who lives up to what he believes. Dr. Speer has embodied for me this absolute sincerity and integrity, and I am delighted at the privilege of saying so."

Mr. Franklin D. Cogswell reminds us of the thoughtfulness of Dr. Speer. "How eagerly he has always sought to help others, especially the young people just entering Christian service, to come into touch with the spirits of all times whose books have eternal messages. I shall never forget how he sent me off to India."

Dr. Ziegler writes, "From my college days when I first heard him down to the present, his great life has been both a challenge and inspiration to the best in my life."

The same testimony is borne by Dr. Bollman, "His ministry came to me first at Northfield in the formative years of my ministry."

"The whole missionary world is to be congratulated on having had the leadership of such a man," says Dr. Fulton. "He stands almost without a peer," writes Dr. Stillwell. "He has surely been one of God's choice gifts," says Dr. Glover. "He is to me one of the missionary heroes of this present day and age," writes Dr. Goetsch. "We all know him and love him for his own and for his work's sake," writes Dr. Grant, of Canada. "I regard him as the greatest missionary in America today," is the verdict of Dr. Haddaway. Miss Cobb pays this beautiful tribute, "While we acknowledge his 'Missionary Leadership' and rejoice in his power both in 'Prayer and Missions,' we recognize in him also the 'Marks of a Man,' and delight to present to him as a titled gentleman our testimonies of appreciation and affectionate esteem in this memorial of a true life."

Other Secretaries write in similar strain. "Dr. Speer has been, and thank God, still is, one of our foremost apostles of international good-will."—Rev. Mr. Heebner.

"I esteem him very highly as our missionary 'Great-Heart.'"—Dr. Beets.

"Somehow we never think of him as a denominational executive. He truly belongs to us all."—Dr. Hopkins.

"I know of no man," says Leslie B. Moss, "who is more beloved and more deeply respected throughout the whole body of Christian Churches in this country and through the missionary body scattered in the various countries in the world than is Dr. Speer."

"Under the guidance of Dr. Speer and his colleagues, the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church has continued to occupy the leading place among the world's Foreign Missionary Societies, both in the cultivation of the home church and in the administration of the work in the fields. I think you and I are too near to Dr. Speer to get his measure in true perspective." No doubt Dr. Anderson feels that "distance lends enchantment to the view."

"As a lay-preacher and scholarly interpreter of the word of God," Dr. Wolf believes, "he ranks very high among those to whom is given to interpret the Scrip-

tures. His Christianity stood the test of the great world war."

From the Religious Society of Friends, through Miss Rhoades, comes this greeting, "His outstanding qualities are his ability to combine strong conviction with a genial sympathy with fellow-workers of widely varying opinions. His delightful sense of humor helps in this."

"Just to think of his being 40 years in that very responsible position!" exclaims Mrs. Campbell. "Praying that the Master whom he loves and serves so well may continue him for 40 years more as a Secretary."

From the Presbyterian Church in the South, Dr. James I. Vance sent this felicitation: "By the Churches of Christendom, Dr. Speer is regarded as our foremost missionary seer and statesman. His life has been invaluable to the missionary enterprise and long after he has gone to his reward his name will cast a spell over the hosts who press on to crown Christ King."

"Without a moment's hesitation," Dr. Endicott declares, "I would say that I believe Dr. Speer is the most gifted, most trusted, most useful, and best loved missionary Secretary in the world today." Among the other fine things this gifted brother said, "I am glad to know that you have been selected to represent your brethren on the anniversary occasion, next Monday."

"Who can measure the value of such a personality as Robert E. Speer's?" writes Dr. Franklin. "His influence is beyond all estimate. All denominations join the Presbyterians in gratitude for his many years of service since all of us claim him and he belongs to Christendom."

The Executive Committee of my own Board of Foreign Missions has voted that I extend to you, Dr. Speer, our heartiest congratulations and well wishes, as well as to the great Board whom you so ably and faithfully represent.

Dear Friends: Forty years as the peerless Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.! Why should we celebrate this memorable occasion? What is the constraining motive? Is there any special significance in the number, *forty*?

Yes, there is a rich meaning to it.

It is more significant than a silver anniversary, or a golden jubilee, or a diamond celebration. If you will open your Bible you will be surprised to find how frequently reference is made to this sacred number. So far as I can recall, this period always alludes to times of trial, trouble and temptation. Where is the faithful, courageous, forward-looking Secretary who has not experienced this? The flood was 40 days upon the earth. The children of Israel had to wander 40 years in the wilderness. Moses interceded 40 days for his people. The Ninevites proclaimed a fast for 40 days. Ezekiel must bear for 40 days the transgression of Judaea. Our Lord spent 40 days in the wilderness. He was 40 hours in the sepulchre. "He showed himself alive after his passion appearing unto the disciples by the space of 40 days and speaking the things of the Kingdom of God."

This devoted servant of Christ who has been a Secretary of a Board of Foreign Missions need not be told of the many trials, anxieties and sorrows that have cast their shadows athwart his pathway. These are the usual disciplines for the ennobling of the soul, and no one can escape them who would live the noblest, act the truest, and serve the best. The Saviour's fast of 40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness of Judaea, like every act of His sacrificial life, should remind us that the bitter experiences of life, be they individual or collective, are the only way to lasting renown and eternal glory.

After the flood came deliverance; after the wilderness-wanderings of the chosen people of Israel, they were given the Land of Canaan for their inheritance; after the temptation of Jesus came the ministry of angels; after the rest in the tomb, we hear the women proclaim: "He is risen as He said"; after He tarried with His disciples for 40 days on the earth, He went back to the Father's throne in Heaven.

And may we not hope that after these 40 years of faithful toil for the Master in the spread of the Gospel in all the world, there may come into the big heart of this dear brother an abundance of joy and peace in the Holy Spirit? The Lord grant it.

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NEW YORK

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NEW YORK AND VICINITY

Nov. 12, 31.

A "family gathering" in celebration of the fortieth anniversary of Dr. Robert E. Speer as a secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, was held on Monday afternoon, November 2, in the Assembly Room of 156 Fifth Avenue. Although his legion of friends wanted "to hire Madison Square Garden," and let the secretaries of all the Protestant Foreign Mission Boards in the United States and Canada speak, this was as much of an observance as "Robert," as most of the speakers affectionately called him, would permit. And all preparations for a costly gift were likewise "tabooed," Dr. and Mrs. Speer calling attention to the fact that most of the official "family at 156," are making weekly donations from their salaries to the recently created "sacrificial Fund" for missionaries. However, a large, beautifully done-up box of tubes of lilies of the valley were presented to Dr. Speer for his garden at his summer home at Lakeville, Conn., that being his favorite flower.

Many prominent persons were in attendance. Some half dozen former moderators of the General Assembly were present, together with virtually all the leading officials of the Boards. Dr. Speer sat modestly in an "amen" seat among his brethren. Mrs. Speer, who is president of the National Board of the Y.W.C.A., was also present.

Dr. Erdman presided, and there were five speakers: Dr. J. Ross Stevenson, president of Princeton Seminary, and one of the oldest members of the Board in point of service; Dr. Arthur J. Brown, secretary-emeritus of the Board; Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew, secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States; John R. Mott, secretary of the International Missionary Union; Dr. Mudge, moderator of the 1931 Assembly, who was the room-mate of Dr. Speer in the seminary.

Dr. Speer himself was the last speaker. As usual, he gave all the glory to others. He said that his friends were "the loveliest people in the whole world." A reception to Dr. and Mrs. Speer followed.

Banner. Oct. 29, 1931

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Dr. Robert Elliot Speer's Forty Years of Service

Dr. Robert Elliot Speer is completing 40 years in the service of the Board of Foreign Missions of our church and the event will be celebrated at a banquet in New York on Nov. 2, with many distinguished men gathered to honor him. This honor, however, will not be confined to New York or other cities in the country where similar banquets will be given to him, nor to this country, for it will extend to many leading cities in Europe and Asia and practically to all the countries in the world. He has literally a worldwide reputation and is probably the best known Presbyterian in the world today, and everywhere honors will be paid and congratulations extended to him for his long and able services as a world leader in the work of foreign missions. It is a comparatively small thing to mention that he was Moderator of our General Assembly in 1927, and the further facts that he has received more honorary degrees from colleges and universities in this country and in Scotland than he could carry around with him, for if they were all appended to his name they would trail on the ground. He has made four or five missionary tours to the Far East and to South America, and has also written about 25 books, some of them large and important volumes. How he has managed to crowd all this work into these 40 years is beyond our understanding, and all of his work in these various fields has been of the highest grade. He is also a masterful orator and can sway an audience as by a magic wand. Yet in spite of all his D.D.'s and LL.D.'s he is not a minister but only an elder in our church and so is to be classed along with the women in this office and when he preaches in the pulpit as he frequently does he fills the office of preacher only as any capable woman elder can do. High above all these attainments and services stands the character of Robert E. Speer, read and known of all men, for his upstanding integrity and fine Christian spirit and beautiful modesty, for he is so modest that he blushes at any praise like a young girl. He is so unconscious of himself that he shrinks from honor or praise and he had to be run down and caught and corralled and carried up to the Moderator's chair when elected to that position. He is truly a living gospel, the kind that the church lives by and that keeps the gospel alive and saves the world. Never has he doubted the cause and ultimate triumph of foreign missions in these days when some others are speaking softly if not faintly on the subject. The whole Presbyterian church and all other Protestant churches and many Roman Catholics will join in doing him honor and will pray that many more years of fruitful service may be granted unto him.

thought to the hereafter. But when the years increased and he began to think of the natural end of this stage of life, he turned his thoughts to the great question. He then reached the independent conclusion that individual life continues through the change which we call death. He felt there was a central organizing core of life that went on and on. That was his conclusion. We talked of it many times together." We do not suspend our faith in immortality on any man's opinion, however great he was, for we have a more sure word of prophecy than this, and yet it comforts us to know that the greatest men do generally hold to this faith. Rev. Dr. Howe, a Methodist pastor in Orange, who is the pastor of Mrs. Edison and was a confidential friend of Mr. Edison, has revealed one of his last sayings as he neared the end and aroused from his stupor and smiled and said, "It is beautiful over there." Again we do not put too much value upon such sayings, and yet it may have been, as the great man drew near the border where the master of sound passed into silence and the lamplighter of the world passed into the greater light beyond, the dawning in his soul of a light that never was on sea or land. When asked what he would do in the world hereafter he answered, "Keep on experimenting"; which is a true Christian conception of the life eternal.

W = Church for Statesman.

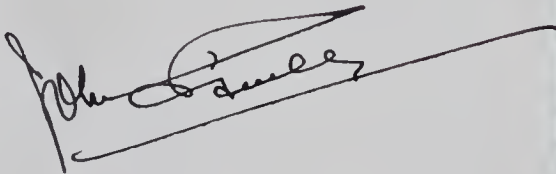
The New York Times

Nov. 3, 1931.

Dear Robert:

This is of the
common garden variety
but such as it is,
it is offered with
admiration and af-
fection.

Yours ever



2

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Ave.,

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1931.

ROBERT SPEER, the fortieth anniversary of whose service in the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions was celebrated yesterday, is a layman, though the University of Edinburgh after the great world missionary conference held in Scotland in 1910, conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. He is a graduate of the Princeton Theological Seminary but entered immediately upon the work to which he has given these forty years, and was not ordained as a minister.

Nevertheless, he has been one of the men most sought by the pulpits of the world. Though he has served as Moderator of the General Assembly of his own church, he is widely known for his ardent support of inter-church work and for his leadership in missions. He has lived up to the meaning of his name in the language of the sturdy race that gave him to America—"to inquire," "to search out"—for he has circumnavigated the earth in becoming acquainted with the peoples who make up the human race.

Mr. SPEER has a rare gift of speech and has been able to inspire and lead as well as investigate. His written word has also been used in thousands of churches. It has been said that no man living has more friends in India, China and Japan and indeed in all parts of the world. And prophet though he is, he is not without honor in his own country.

Mon
Nov. 3, 31

Dr. Mudge also praised Dr. Speer for his four years' service as president of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America and for the year he served as moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church. "I cannot think of a single forward movement for the last ten years in the Protestant Church in which Dr. Speer has not had a share," said Dr. Mudge. "In the name of the Presbyterian Church I express to you her gratitude for your forty years of devoted service." The meeting closed with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Frank Mason North, long secretary of the Methodist Board of Foreign Missions.

DR. SPEER HONORED FOR MISSION WORK

Presbyterian Foreign Board Celebrates His Fortieth Year as Its Secretary.

BIG RALLY WAS PLANNED

But Church Leader Would Not Permit Madison Square Garden Meeting or Presentation of Costly Gifts.

Dr. Robert E. Speer was eulogized at a reception yesterday afternoon in celebration of his forty years as secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions. The meeting was held at the Presbyterian Building, 156 Fifth Avenue.

Most of the principal leaders of the denomination were present. All of the speakers referred to Dr. Speer as perhaps the greatest living leader in Protestant foreign mission work. Several speakers also paid tribute to Mrs. Speer, who is president of the National Board of the Y. W. C. A.

The chairman was the Rev. Dr. Charles R. Erdman, president of the Board of Foreign Missions.

Dr. Speer responded after a tribute by the Rev. Dr. Lewis Seymour Mudge, Moderator of the General Assembly and Permanent Stated Clerk of the Assembly. Dr. Mudge was a roommate of Dr. Speer at Princeton Seminary.

The other speakers were the Rev. Dr. J. Ross Stevenson, president of Princeton Seminary, and one of the oldest members of the board in point of service; the Rev. Dr. Arthur J. Brown, now retired, but who for thirty-four years was a co-secretary with Dr. Speer; Dr. John R. Mott, general secretary of the International Missionary Council and retired secretary of the international committee of the Y. M. C. A., who has been a life-long friend of Dr. Speer; the Rev. Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew, general secretary of the Reformed Church in the United States, who was chosen to speak as the senior secretary in point of service of the sixty Foreign Mission Boards in the United States and Canada.

Dr. Erdman announced that the friends of Dr. Speer had wanted "to hire Madison Square Garden and let all of the secretaries of the denominational foreign mission boards in America speak," but as Dr. Speer would not consent, Dr. Bartholomew had brought greetings from fellow secretaries.

Dr. Bartholomew read excerpts from the messages and at the close he handed over the letters, in a bound black leather portfolio, to Dr. Speer.

Dr. Erdman presented to Dr. Speer, in the name of his associates, a large box containing bulbs of lilies of the valley, the favorite flower of Dr. Speer. It was learned afterward that Dr. Speer would not permit a costly gift because all the members of the board were giving a part of their salaries each week to a "sacrificial fund," recently established to aid foreign missionaries because of the slump. Due to the depression, it was said donations from Presbyterian Churches throughout the country had declined.

Schenectady Union Star Nov. 5, 1931

Advance Men of Religion

TEN GENERATIONS of college men have listened to two men who for these forty years have had more contacts with their kind than any men of their time, both of whom are relinquishing part of their strenuous work. These men are Robert E. Speer and John R. Mott.

While each deserves special mention by himself, the coincidence of their retirements naturally draws attention to their comradeship for four decades in the promotion of the Christian religion and couples them at this time. Mr. Speer is resigning from the secretaryship of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions which he has occupied for forty years, and Mr. Mott announces his forthcoming resignation from the position of general secretary of the International Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association.

Coinciding as have been the periods of their respective services in point of years, also coinciding are the areas of their influence. World vision came to them about thirty years before it came to the rest of the country. Both these men, potent in influence in American colleges, were equally potent in almost all colleges in every civilized country in the world where they pointed out the universality of the Christian religion and the essential brotherhood of man. Each was as much at home in Madras or Hong Kong as he was in New York or San Francisco. Each carried the same message.

"Bob" Speer was a hard-hitting football player for Princeton in the late eighties, and he long remained a heroic figure. It became a tradition that he had renounced fortune and a career of wealth to promote Christianity, and certain it is that no man ever held the attention of college men for so many years over so wide an area. Mott, "discovered" working in a lumber yard by a western clergyman, came through Cornell with a key. With practically any career at his command, he chose to become Christian counsellor for thousands of college young men.

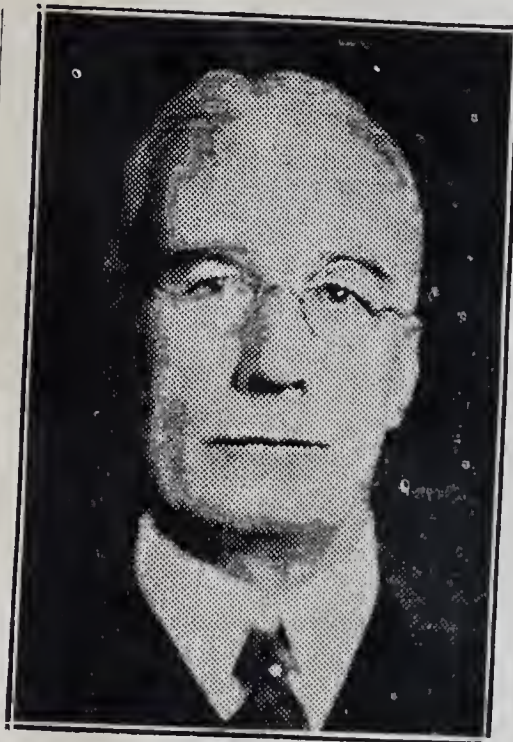
Advance men for western religious culture, these two went boldly forth. The forty years of their service have had a civilizing effect around the world. In China, in India, in Japan, in the United States, in almost every country the impact of these two men has been felt. They were among the first who personified what Theodore Roosevelt delighted to call "muscular Christianity." It assuredly has been a virile interpretation which they have carried.

A Missionary Statesman Honored

THE fortieth anniversary of the work of Dr. Robert E. Speer with the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions was celebrated Monday afternoon, at the Presbyterian headquarters, 156 Fifth avenue, New York. Dr. Arthur J. Brown, secretary emeritus of the board, in the principal address of the afternoon, said:

"No other living man has more deeply influenced modern missionary thought and activity than Dr. Speer. Every year, except during his visits to the foreign field, he has addressed thousands of students in colleges, universities, seminaries and summer conferences, so that a whole generation has grown up with his impress upon it. In every field, missionaries have read his books and heard his voice and been helped and cheered by his letters."

Dr. Speer was called to the Presbyterian Foreign Board in 1891, before graduating from Princeton Theological Seminary, and has never been ordained. He is one of the outstanding leaders in the religious thought and life of the church, not only in the United States, but throughout the world. The honorary degree of doctor of divinity was conferred upon him by the University of Edinburgh in 1910 at the time of the world missionary conference in Edinburgh. It was, however, only after the repeated urging of his friends that he could be prevailed upon to accept



Robert E. Speer, D. D.

this honor. In 1927 in San Francisco, Calif., he was elected moderator of the Presbyterian General Assembly, the highest honorary office in that denomination.

The writings of Dr. Speer have made him an outstanding mission-

ary statesman. Perhaps no man living has more friends in India, China and Japan, and other parts of the world, than he. His writings include more than twenty volumes.

Dr. Speer has made many missionary journeys. In 1896 he visited Persia, India, China, Korea and Japan, and in 1899 went to South America. In 1915 he went to Siam, as well as China and the Philippines, and in 1921 journeyed again through India and Persia. In 1925 he visited Latin America. In 1926 he returned to China and Japan. In 1929 he was a delegate to the International Missionary Conference held on the slopes of the Mount of Olives, outside of Jerusalem. Practically all of the out-of-the-way mission stations of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions in sixteen countries have been studied by him at first hand.

Although a denominational secretary, Dr. Speer has been a great worker for inter-church causes. Several years ago he was elected president of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, and for four years afforded excellent leadership to that great organization. During the war period he was a member of the Advisory Committee on Religious and Moral Activities of the Army and Navy, one of his responsibilities being the selection and preparation of literature which the Y. M. C. A. distributed,

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156 FIFTH AVE., ROOM 609 NEW YORK

Fortieth Anniversary

ON NOVEMBER 1, Robert E. Speer completes his fortieth year of service with the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. In these years he has traveled much and has made wide contacts, always in the interest of the great missions enterprise. He has become a world figure, a far-visioned seer who has not lost the common touch. As senior secretary of the Board, Dr. Speer is looked to, both from the mission field and at the home base, for discerning and aggressive leadership. In a day when time looms so large that eternity seems to have been forgotten, he is one who has not lost perspective. He throws the light of eternity on the tasks of every day.

S. F. M.

"What Jesus Does for Me"

By ROBERT E. SPEER

HE SHOWS me the possibility and duty of a man as to his character and his service.

In the effort to attain this for myself, He does for me what I know I cannot do for myself, and what I have never found any friend, however dear, able to do for me.

He gives me a clearer moral vision and the courage to try to live by that vision.

He gives me the desire to work in the world as intensely as he worked.

He kindles me, when I grow sluggish or indifferent, to a positive and aggressive antagonism to evil within and without.

He gives me confidence in the truth and so helps me to rest, no matter what happens in the world, because I know that God and the truth must prevail.

He counterbalances, as I cannot, the variable circumstances and unequal conditions of life, and takes care of the excesses that are beyond me.



Robert E. Speer, D.D.

He gives me grace and strength to try, at least, things that I know are impossible, and to attempt, first of all, the things that are hardest to be done.

He helps me to refuse to do good when I know that something better can be done.

He helps me to keep on when I have to, even though I know I cannot.

He saves me from the fret and killing of pride and vanity, and helps me to cease to care for the things that make people sick.

He helps me to keep the central things clear and not to be fogged and broken down by the accessories and secondary things.

He gives me a new and inward living principle.

He reveals my difference from the God I see in Him as sin; and forgives it and deals with it and all that it involves by His Cross.

Lastly, I believe that He is Himself the principle of life and that there is another personality that would not be there if it had not been for Him and if it were not for Him to-day.

(From address given by Dr. Speer at the Sixth Annual Spiritual Emphasis Conference of the Y. M. C. A.s, Chicago, October 19, 1930. Copies of this, attractively made up

in an 8 x 10 1/2 inch wall card may be secured from the Association Press, 347 Madison Avenue, New York City, at \$1.00 per dozen on cardboard; or at 50 cents per dozen on heavy paper.)

The New Outlook, Dec 2, '31
Dante Quirk of Canada

THE

A Great Missionary Secretary



THE name of Dr. Robert E. Speer is known better than any other among the friends of missions throughout the entire Christian Church. He is the most beloved as well as the most trusted and influential missionary secretary in the world to-day. It is a great privilege for the writer to pay tribute to such a great servant of Christ and outstanding leader in the

cause of world-wide Christianity. Multitudes of students during the closing years of last century and the beginning of this century were definitely led to dedicate their lives to service for Christ in foreign fields through Dr. Speer's addresses. The undersigned is one of those who owes more than he can express to the influence of Dr. Speer's life and public work. Throughout the twenty-five years that I have been in secretarial service I have looked with admiration upon Dr. Speer as one of the sanest, most devoted and efficient Christian leaders in North America. He is easily the foremost missionary secretary of the Mission Boards and Societies of North America and Europe. His books, which have been produced in amazing quantity, have stimulated us all to higher ideals and to harder work. One can only hope that God will spare him in health and strength for another score of years that he may continue to contribute so helpfully and through so many lines of activity to the life of the Christian Church and especially to its task of world-wide evangelization. We all love him for his personal qualities and leadership as we look up to him for guidance in matters of missionary policy and apologetics.

A. E. A.

Parents of Dr. Speer

R. E. Speer

Jan 21, '31

Reformed Rev. Jan 32

DEC 11 1931

REALM OF RELIGION

Dr. Speer's Career Crowned With Extraordinary Honors

FORTY YEARS ON.



DR. ROBERT E. SPEER, whose fortieth anniversary as foreign missions leader is being celebrated. He has many friends in Canada.

Dr. Robert E. Speer has completed forty years' work with the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions in New York. He was called to this service in 1891, before graduating from Princeton Theological Seminary, and has never been ordained. He is one of the outstanding leaders in the religious thought and life of the church, not only in the United States, but throughout the world. The honorary degree of doctor of divinity was conferred upon him by the University of Edinburgh in 1910 at the time of the world missionary conference in Edinburgh. In 1927 in San Francisco, Calif., he was elected moderator of the Presbyterian General Assembly, the highest honorary office in that denomination.

The writings of Dr. Speer have made him an outstanding missionary statesman. Perhaps no man living has more friends in India, China and Japan, and other parts of the world, than he. His writings include more than twenty volumes.

Practically all of the out-of-the-way mission stations of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions in sixteen countries have been studied by him at first hand.

Although a denominational secretary Dr. Speer, has been a great worker for inter-church causes. Several years ago he was elected president of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, and for four years afforded excellent leadership to that great organization.

We close this month's "Press Digest" by writing a few words of tribute to a man who has done more than perhaps any other American church leader for missions, for coöperation in Kingdom work, and for suggestions to meet crises in missions. We refer to Dr. Robert E. Speer. Nov. 2, 1931, a garland of tributes was presented to him at his fortieth anniversary as secretary of missions of his church—the Northern Presbyterian. Our Dr. Warnshuis paid him tribute by calling him "one of the outstanding leaders in the World Conferences in Edinburgh in 1910, in the Conferences for Latin America at Panama, Montevideo, and Havana, and at the Conference in Jerusalem." "The two words," said Dr. Chamberlain of the R. C. A., "that always

come to my mind in connection with servant of the Church and servant of God are "strength" and "power"—the strength that he has gathered through these years of rare and rich experience, and the increasing power which he is exercising by reason of it." Dr. J. I. Vance of the Presb. Church, South, spoke of Dr. Speer "as our foremost missionary seer and statesman," while Dr. Bartholomew of the Reformed Church, U. S., himself a seasoned veteran and in charge of gathering the "garland" above named, added his own tribute and that of his Board to the words of appreciation voiced by tongue and pen. We are sure that all who know this "Great Heart" of the missionary forces agree with what the "New Outlook" of the Canadian Church printed about him—coming from Dr. Armstrong's pen:

"Dr. Speer is one of the sanest, most devoted and efficient Christian leaders in North America. He is easily the foremost missionary secretary of the Mission Boards and Societies of North America and Europe. His books, which have been produced in amazing quantity, have stimulated us all to higher ideals and to harder work. One can only hope that God will spare him in health and strength for another score of years that he may continue to contribute so helpfully and through so many lines of activity to the life of the Christian Church and especially to its task of world-wide evangelization. We all love him for his personal qualities and leadership as we look up to him for guidance in matters of missionary policy and apologetics."

DIGEST EDITOR.

Report on the 40th Anniversary, Nov. 19, 31

A LOVABLE CHRISTIAN STATESMAN

The recent celebration of the 40th anniversary of Dr. Robert E. Speer, as secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, was notable for many reasons. Our own beloved Dr. Bartholomew was chosen to speak as the senior secretary in point of service of the sixty Foreign Mission Boards in the United States and Canada. The tributes to Dr. Speer were given with unusual warmth and sincerity. It is certainly difficult to think of any forward movement in the Church of Christ in recent years in which this man of God has not had a noble share. There

is no Christian worker anywhere, who does not feel under deep obligations to Robert E. Speer. As long ago as the college days of the writer, Dr. Speer and John R. Mott were already the most inspiring young leaders of the Church in the eyes of the Christian youth of America. And in the generation that is past, what man can measure the extent of the influence of such a consecrated layman? As a preacher and public speaker Dr. Speer has ranked as one of the most eloquent in the land. Much might be said of his presidency of the Federal Council of the Churches and his outstanding service in a hundred sacred trusts committed to his hands. But most of all we would exalt his Christian spirit, which has caused so many to think of him as pre-eminently a warm-hearted friend and a brother beloved, whose beautiful life and labors of love made him a blessing to us all.

Under the title "A Church Lay Statesman," the *New York Times* has this fine editorial appreciation: "Robert Speer is a layman, though the University of Edinburgh after the great world missionary conference, held in Scotland in 1910, conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. He is a graduate of the Princeton Theological Seminary, but entered immediately upon the work to which he has given these forty years, and was not ordained as a minister. Nevertheless, he has been one of the men most sought by the pulpits of the world. Though he has served as Moderator of the General Assembly of his own Church, he is widely known for his ardent support of inter-Church work and for his leadership in missions. He has lived up to the meaning of his name in the language of the sturdy race that gave him to America—to inquire, 'to search out'—for he has circumnavigated the earth in becoming acquainted with the peoples who make up the human race. Mr. Speer has a rare gift of speech and has been able to inspire and lead as well as investigate. His written word has also been used in thousands of Churches. It has been said that no man living has more friends in India, China and Japan, and indeed in all parts of the world. And prophet though he is, he is not without honor in his own country."

Banner Nov. 5, 1931

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS AND DR. SPEER

The Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. celebrated on November 2, 1931, the fortieth anniversary of the election of Robert Elliott Speer, D.D., the Board's senior secretary. A meeting with appropriate addresses and a social hour were held in the Assembly room of the Board, 156 Fifth avenue, New York City, at three o'clock. The Rev. Arthur J. Brown, D.D., secretary emeritus of the Board, delivered the principal address.

Regarding Dr. Speer, Dr. Brown said, "No other living man has more deeply influenced modern missionary thought and activity. Every year, except during his visits to the foreign field, he has addressed thousands of students in colleges, universities, seminaries and summer confer-

ences, so that a whole generation has grown up with his impress upon it. In obedience to the Board's request, I am preparing a Centennial History of Presbyterian Foreign Missions, and in many lands I have found the trail of Dr. Speer. In every field, missionaries have read his books and heard his voice and been helped and cheered by his letters."

Dr. Speer was called to the Board in 1891, before graduation from Princeton Theological Seminary, and has never been ordained. Although a layman, he developed into one of the outstanding leaders in the religious thought and life of the church, not only in the United States, but throughout the world. The honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him in 1910 at the time of the world missionary conference in Edinburgh, but it was only after the repeated

urging of his friends that he could be prevailed upon to accept this honor. In 1927 he was selected Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.

The writings of Dr. Speer have made him the outstanding missionary statesman in the world today. Perhaps no man living has more friends in India, China and Japan, and in other parts of the world than he. Through the careful husbanding of every moment of his time, he has been able to write more than twenty volumes.

Dr. Speer has made many missionary journeys. In 1896 he visited Persia, India, China, Korea and Japan, and in 1899 went to South America. In 1915 he went to Siam, as well as China and the Philippines, and in 1921 journeyed again through India and Persia. In 1925 he visited Latin America. In 1926 he visited China and Japan. He was a delegate to the International Missionary Conference held on the slopes of the Mount of Olives, outside of Jerusalem, in 1928. Practically all of the out-of-the-way mission stations of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions in sixteen countries have been studied by him at first hand.

Although a denominational secretary, Dr. Speer has been a great worker for inter-church causes. Several years ago he was elected president of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, and for four years afforded excellent leadership to this great organization, giving himself tirelessly to the prosecution of its ends. During the war period he was a member of the Advisory Committee on Religious and Moral Activities of the army and navy, one of his responsibilities being the selection and preparation of literature which the Young Men's Christian Association distributed widely.

Board of Foreign Missions Reformed Church in the United States

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1505 RACE STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

REV. ALLEN R. BARTHOLOMEW, D. D.
SECRETARY

REV. JOHN H. POORMAN
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

CABLE ADDRESS, "ALLENBARTH" PHILADELPHIA
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November 2, 1931

ADDRESS OF REV. ALLEN R. BARTHOLOMEW, D.D., AT THE FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF DR. ROBERT ELLIOT SPEER AS SENIOR SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A., NOVEMBER 2, 1931.

It is a high honor and a real pleasure to bring to you, my dear Dr. Speer, the greetings of the Boards of Foreign Missions of North America - a host of your most ardent friends. I wish to thank this great Board of Foreign Missions, in whose presence we are assembled, for inviting me to come from Pennsylvania, the natal state of Dr. Speer, and to join in the grand chorus of praise filling this Assembly Room. Let me remind you, one and all, that our good and faithful Secretary hails from a most illustrious family in the Keystone State.

Dr. Canon Gould was kind enough to tell me, "We all shall envy you the privilege of conveying to those present the general sense of Dr. Speer's worth and service," and then he paid this tribute, "I know of no man, of our day and generation, who by his endowments of tongue and pen has conferred greater benefits upon the Church at large."

Dr. Patton has well said, "I do not envy you your task if you are to condense in one brief address all the interesting things that will be said by Dr. Speer's many friends of the various Boards. Still less do I envy Dr. Speer the necessity of hearing all those things said. My first meeting was at Boston when Speer was comparatively young. As the audience went out under the spell of his vibrant voice a lady remarked, 'What must it be to be the mother of such a man!' That was a question just one woman could answer, and perhaps not she."

In order that I might partly qualify for this unusual occasion, I wrote to a coterie of Secretaries asking them to send me their estimate of Dr. Speer, as a friend of the Boards and as a leader in the work of Foreign Missions. I hope the forty Secretaries will bear in mind that the extracts from their letters do not represent all they have said or would like to say.

The reply of Miss Lyon greatly pleased me, "As for your label given him, 'a friend of the Boards,' what could I say on the subject when he is the husband of the Mrs. Speer who has been President of the particular Board I served for 16 years?"

Knowing a weakness among some men for fulsome praise, Dr. Wood served this warning, "In order to tell the truth about Robert Speer, one would have to draw upon all the superlatives at his command. I realize that you will exercise suitable restraint. As a leader in the work of Foreign Missions, Speer, to my mind, is the outstanding figure in the world today and has been for these many years. His power as a speaker, his vigor as a writer, his clearness as a thinker have been invaluable to other Boards."

Dr. de Schweinitz, out of a long and rich fellowship confesses, "It is festly impossible to say in a few words what Dr. Robert E. Speer has been to the entire Foreign Mission enterprise and what an inspiration he has been to all Miss Boards and their Executive Officers. What his friendship and fellowship have been to me personally I cannot easily describe."

It was rather a startling revelation to me that Dr. Speer, as Secretary of the Board, is one year older than the historic Foreign Missions Conference. As such Dr. Barton very deservedly entitles him, "the Dean of all Secretaries of all the Boards and in many ways. Time and honors and responsibilities seem to make no inroads upon his versatility or put check upon his activities. Of course we have made up our minds to the fact that Dr. Speer will have no successor. Secretaries will follow him but they will never succeed him in his noble record of his achievements, in his many spheres of distinguished activities."

"In the early organization of the Foreign Missions Conference he took an active part," says Dr. Farnshuis. "He was one of the outstanding leaders in the World Conference in Edinburgh in 1910, in the Conferences for Latin America at Panama, and Montevideo, and Havana, and at the Conference in Jerusalem. Under his leadership and with his support and his influence the Presbyterian Church participates in more union institutions on the mission field than any other mission board in the world."

Dr. Diffendorfer declares, "His long and rich experience, his own deep devotion to the cause of Christ throughout the world and his courageous advocacy of the cause of Foreign Missions have constituted in him an inspiring example to us all."

Knowing Dr. Drach as I do, it was no surprise to me to have him break out in saying, "Dr. Robert E. Speer is the primus inter pares, the first among equals, the man to whom we confidently turn for a definition of a policy for the solution of a problem in the common missionary endeavor. He has a heart of brotherly love."

"The two words," says Dr. Chamberlain, a bosom friend, "that always come to my mind in connection with this servant of the Church and servant of God are 'strength' and 'power', the strength that he has gathered through these years of rare and rich experience and the increasing power which he is exercising by reason of it."

It is the judgment of Dr. Armstrong that, "The name of Dr. Robert E. Speer is known better than any other among the friends of missions throughout the entire Christian church. We all love him for his personal qualities and leadership as we look up to him in matters of missionary policy and apologetics."

The venerable Dr. North says, "For over 40 years, many of them in rather close fellowship with him, he has been to me in a high sense, strength and comfort. Of course it is his personality which counts most." And the son, Dr. Eric North, adds, "To all of us will occur the depths of his rootage in vital faith in Christ, his readiness to listen, his remarkable capacity for being ahead of his work and his sense of humor."

"One hesitates to say anything concerning Dr. Speer," so writes the wise brother, Rev. Mr. Bonsack. "I can only offer my testimony to his wonderful contribution to the cause of Missions."

Dr. Cram says, "Missionary Secretaries of all Boards desire to have his final judgment on all questions. His clear insight of all missionary problems and tasks coupled with years of administrative experience makes him perhaps the most valued leader in the field of applied missions."

#3.

Jesse R. Wilson insists, "Clarity of judgment, keenness of insight, depth of conception and capacity for sustained and unaltered endeavor seem to mark him to an almost incomparable degree. Surely no one is so Christo-centric in his every thought, ideal, and aspiration."

In gleaning from the sheaf of letters in my possession, I am led to believe that one of the greatest influences in the life of Dr. Speer has been his contact with the youth of the land.

"It was largely under his influence that I volunteered for Foreign service thirty-six years ago," says Dr. Corey, "and he has been one of my greatest inspirations ever since."

Dr. Colton confesses, "The debt I owe Robert E. Speer dates back to student days and my earliest service as a Y. M. C. A. student secretary."

Mr. Fay Campbell bears this significant tribute: "It is the most unusual thing in the world, I think, to see a man who lives up to what he believes. Dr. Speer has embodied for me this absolute sincerity and integrity, and I am delighted at the privilege of saying so."

Mr. Franklin D. Cogswell reminds us of the thoughtfulness of Dr. Speer. "How eagerly he has always sought to help others, especially the young people just entering Christian service to come into touch with the spirits of all times whose books have eternal messages. I shall never forget how he sent me off to India."

Dr. Ziegler writes, "From my college days when I first heard him down to the present, his great life has been both a challenge and inspiration to the best in my life."

The same testimony is borne by Dr. Bollman, "His ministry came to me first at Northfield in the formative years of my ministry."

"The whole missionary world is to be congratulated on having had the leadership of such a man," says Dr. Fulton. "He stands almost without a peer," writes Dr. Stillwell. "He has surely been one of God's choice gifts," says Dr. Glover. "He is to me one of the missionary heroes of this present day and age," writes Dr. Goetsch. "We all know him and love him for his own and for his work's sake," writes Dr. Grant of Canada. "I regard him as the greatest missionary in America today," is the verdict of Dr. Haddaway. Miss Cobb pays this beautiful tribute, "While we acknowledge his 'Missionary Leadership' and rejoice in his power both in 'Prayer and Missions' we recognize in him also the 'Marks of a Man', and delight to present to him as a titled gentleman our testimonies of appreciation and affectionate esteem in this memorial of a true life."

Other Secretaries write in similar strain. "Dr. Speer has been, and thank God still is, one of our foremost apostles of international good-will." - Rev. Mr. Heebner.

"I esteem him very highly as our missionary 'Great-Heart'". - Dr. Beets.

"Somehow we never think of him as a denominational executive. He truly belongs to us all." - Dr. Hopkins.

"I know of no man," says Leslie B. Moss, "who is more beloved and more deeply respected throughout the whole body of Christian Churches in this country and through the missionary body scattered in the various countries in the world than is Dr. Speer."

"Under the guidance of Dr. Speer and his colleagues, the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church has continued to occupy the leading place among the world's Foreign Missionary Societies, both in the cultivation of the home church and in the administration of the work in the fields. I think you and I are too near to Dr. Speer to get his measure in true perspective." No doubt Dr. Anderson feels that "distance lends enchantment to the view."

"As a lay-preacher and scholarly interpreter of the word of God," Dr. Wolf "believes he ranks very high among those to whom is given to interpret the scriptures. His Christianity stood the test of the great world war."

From the Religious Society of Friends, through Miss Rhoades, comes this greeting, "His outstanding qualities are his ability to combine strong conviction with a genial sympathy with fellow workers of widely varying opinions. His delightful sense of humor helps in this."

"Just to think of his being 40 years in that very responsible position!" exclaims Mrs. Campbell. "Praying that the Master whom he loves and serves so well may continue him for 40 years more as a Secretary."

From the Presbyterian Church in the South, Dr. James I. Vance sent this felicitation: "By the Churches of Christendom, Dr. Speer is regarded as our foremost missionary seer and statesman. His life has been invaluable to the missionary enterprise and long after he has gone to his reward his name will cast a spell over the hosts who press on to crown Christ King."

"Without a moment's hesitation," Dr. Endicott declares, "I would say that I believe Dr. Speer is the most gifted, most trusted, most useful, and best loved missionary Secretary in the world today." Among the other fine things this gifted brother said, "I am glad to know that you have been selected to represent your brethren on the anniversary occasion, next Monday."

"Who can measure the value of such a personality as Robert E. Speer's?," writes Dr. Franklin. "His influence is beyond all estimate. All denominations join the Presbyterians in gratitude for his many years of service since all of us claim him and he belongs to Christendom."

The Executive Committee of my own Board of Foreign Missions has voted that I extend to you, Dr. Speer, our heartiest congratulations and well wishes, as well as to the great Board whom you so ably and faithfully represent.

Dear Friends: Forty years as the peerless Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.! Why should we celebrate this memorable occasion? What is the constraining motive? Is there any special significance in the number, forty? Yes, there is a rich meaning to it.

It is more significant than a silver anniversary, or a golden jubilee, or a diamond celebration. If you will open your Bible you will be surprised to

find how frequently reference is made to this sacred number. So far as I can recall this period always alludes to ties of trial, trouble and temptation. Where is the faithful, courageous, forward-looking Secretary who has not experienced this? The flood was 40 days upon the earth. The children of Israel had to wander 40 years in the wilderness. Moses interceded 40 days for his people. The Ninevites proclaimed a fast for 40 days. Ezekiel must bear for 40 days the transgression of Judaea. Our Lord spent 40 days in the wilderness. He was 40 hours in the sepulchre. "He showed himself alive after his passion appearing unto the disciples by the space of 40 days and speaking the things of the Kingdom of God."

This devoted servant of Christ who has been a Secretary of a Board of Foreign Missions need not be told of the many trials, anxieties and sorrows that have cast their shadows athwart his pathway. These are the usual disciplines for the ennobling of the soul, and no one can escape them who would live the noblest, act the truest, and serve the best. The Saviour's fast of 40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness of Judaea like every act of His sacrificial life should remind us that the bitter experiences of life, be they individual or collective, are the only way to lasting renown and eternal glory.

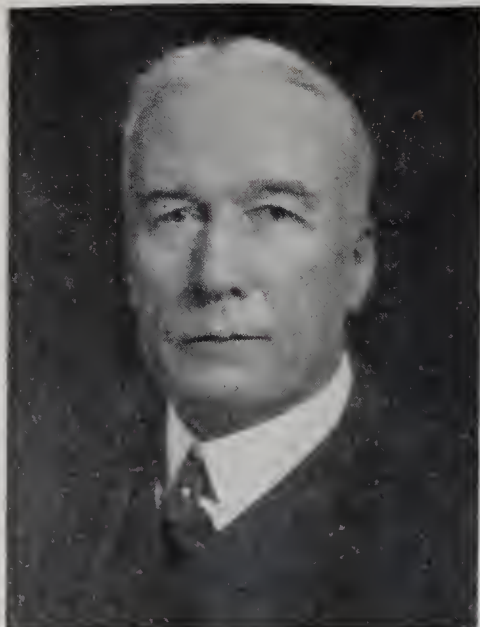
After the flood came deliverance; after the wilderness-wanderings of the chosen people of Israel, they were given the Land of Canaan for their inheritance; after the temptation of Jesus came the ministry of angels; after the rest in the tomb, we hear the women proclaim: "He is risen as He said;" after he tarried with His disciples for 40 days on the earth, He went back to the Father's throne in Heaven.

And may we not hope that after these 40 years of faithful toil for the Master in the spread of the Gospel in all the world, there may come into the big heart of this dear brother an abundance of joy and peace in the Holy Spirit? The Lord grant it.

Presbyterian Magazine - Dec 1931

Robert E. Speer Leader for 40 Years

*Remarks of Secretary Emeritus Arthur J. Brown
on Dr. Speer's Fortieth Anniversary as Secretary
of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions,
November 2, 1931*



I COUNT my thirty-four years of fellowship with him in service among the high privileges of my life.

No other living man has more deeply influenced modern missionary thought and activity. Every year, except during his visits to the foreign field, he has addressed thousands of students in colleges, universities, seminaries and summer conferences so that a whole generation has grown up with his impress upon it. In obedience to the Board's request, I am preparing a Centennial History of Presbyterian Foreign Missions, and in many lands I have found the trail of Dr. Speer. In every field missionaries have read his books and heard his voice and been helped and cheered by his letters.

Never has there been a time when such leadership was so urgently needed. When I entered the Secretary's office thirty-six years ago, there was a sub-conscious feeling that American Christians were reaching down from a superior height to help inferior peoples. Now, we have learned that non-Christian peoples have qualities that are worthy of our respect. Americans know that Japan is a world power with statesmen equal in ability to the best statesmen in the West; that the Christian soldier, President Chiang Kai-Shek, is leading China through difficulties as great as those that confronted George Washington in our own country; that the Hindu Tagore was awarded the Nobel Prize as one of the world's outstanding leaders of thought; that by common consent the most remarkable personality

in the world today is the East Indian Gandhi; and that the foremost evangelist of this generation is the Japanese Kagawa.

And many Americans are saying: "Why should we send missionaries to such peoples, especially as our newspapers are daily describing political corruption and commercial greed in our own country and President Hoover has said that America is the most lawless of civilized nations." Asia, wrenched from its eminent moorings, tempest tossed and drifting toward the breakers, is saying that Christian civilization is a broken, discredited thing and that the Orient has nothing to learn from the Occident.

Meantime, the faith of many at home is shaken, and they are challenging, not so much missionary methods as the adequacy of Christianity itself as a solution of the world's problems. They are asking whether we have any religion to give to other peoples that is worth the effort and money that are being expended? Schools and hospitals were the chief features in the missionary enterprise in which they were interested, and now they hear that Asiatic governments are developing their own educational and medical services on a scale which we cannot possibly equal.

THIS, by the way, may well remind us that education and physical healing were never our real objectives, but that they were means to attain it, necessary, beneficent, but after all means and not ends. It is a spir-

itual change that the missionary enterprise exists for, and that is needed now not less but more. Greek art, literature and philosophy were highly developed when Christ came. The modern world counts Plato the profoundest of thinkers. The principles of Roman law are still the basis of British and American legislation. Judaism had a far better code of morals than any non-Christian religion with which we are dealing today; yet our Lord commanded his disciples to go into all the world and preach his gospel to every creature, and St. Paul centered his evangelistic efforts on the most cultivated cities of the ancient world, Rome, Corinth and Ephesus. The missionary enterprise today may wisely stress its fundamental purpose of making Jesus Christ intelligently known and his principles definitely accepted.

NOW the significance of this anniversary of Dr. Speer's secretaryship lies in the fact that at such a time the missionary cause abroad and the Church at home call for the leadership of men like him, men of clear vision, of unfaltering faith, or statesmenlike plans and of catholic spirit. Our generation needs to be reminded, as General Smuts recently said in his address as President of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, that "the world consists not only of electrons and radiations but also of souls and aspirations." Said that great Chinese Christian Chang Po-ling, "To be sure, it is a dis- [Turn to page 680]

They Honor Dr. Speer

On His 40th Anniversary With the Board

United Presbyterian

DR. SPEER is known to United Presbyterians first as a Christian and then as a missionary leader.

Probably no man of this generation has rendered a greater service to the cause of foreign missions than he has. Being a keen student, not only of the Gospel of Christ but also of the science of missions, he has been able through the period of his service to apply with accuracy to the administration of the cause in his Church the principles of world evangelization as stated by Christ.

Those of us who have been associated with him in this service and have enjoyed his fellowship and profited from it, shall continue to hope and pray that he may serve the Church for many years more as friend and counselor to the servants of Christ in every land.

—W. B. ANDERSON,
*Corresponding Secretary,
Board of Foreign Missions*

* * *

Northern Baptist

WHO CAN measure the value of such a personality as Robert E. Speer? His influence is beyond all estimate. Few voices in the history of the Christian Church have made such an effective appeal as his for the prompt evangelization of the world. The clarity of his faith and his passion have inspired multitudes and have helped thousands to consecrate their lives to highest objectives. A rare mental apprehension and a deep spiritual discernment are blended in him as in few men of our day. While he is a notably able administrator, his spiritual qualities have never been blurred by his attention to burdensome practical questions. Among us he has been a "censer bearer of the Lord," and throughout the earth the aroma of his soul is sweetening the lives of those who know him. Best of all, the Eternal Christ has obviously been in control of him and has manifested

himself in the life of Robert E. Speer.

—JAMES H. FRANKLIN,
*Foreign Secretary, American
Baptist Foreign Mission Society*

* * *

Reformed

THE FULFILLMENT of forty years of service to the Presbyterian Church, and more particularly to the great missionary work of that Church, is indeed worthy of especial remembrance. In the case of Dr. Speer his service has been so far reaching, and his influence so wide, that the Church Universal holds him in high and grateful regard. The Reformed Church in America, a member of the great Presbyterian family, and its Board of Foreign Missions, commemorating this year the completion of a century of organized life, cherish a peculiar sense of possession as to the service and leadership of Dr. Speer. All of our ministry, and especially our missionaries, regard him with deep and affectionate and grateful esteem.

—WM. I. CHAMBERLAIN,
*Corresponding Secretary,
Board of Foreign Missions*

United Church of Canada

WITHOUT a moment's hesitation I would say that I believe Dr. Speer is the most gifted, most trusted, most useful and best loved foreign missionary secretary in the world today. I believe the foreign missionary secretaries would not only agree to this but would demand such recognition for our great leader. Moreover, we all know why we love and respect him so sincerely and deeply. In the first place, he is one of the outstanding Christians of the world. No man of our generation has been more consistently and deeply loyal to our Lord than he. If ever there is even a shade of intolerance manifested by our friend, it is only when he senses a tendency to render something less than full honor to

our Divine Lord. Again, he has brought to the cause of foreign missions not only an acute but a spacious and comprehending mind. He has studied with patience every aspect of the foreign missionary enterprise and has made all his brethren his debtors by the fullness of his knowledge and the ripeness of his wisdom. Lastly, with all his fine gifts, there is no man among us who possesses more winsomeness and rich brotherliness than does our great friend.

—JAMES ENDICOTT,
Secretary, Board of Foreign Missions

* * *

Congregational- Christian

THERE HAS been a very real relationship between the two Boards which has been strengthened and elevated by the personality of Dr. Speer. The Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. has from its inception been bound by the closest ties to the American Board, and the American Board has now no truer friend than Secretary Robert E. Speer. Eager in cooperation, understanding with sympathy our perplexities, particularly in Moslem lands, ready but never presuming with counsel, always radiating the calm confidence of a firm faith he helps to hold us steady in these days of sudden change.

—ERNEST W. RIGGS,
*Secretary, American Board of
Commissioners for Foreign Missions*

* * *

United Lutheran

OUR BOARD and our Church have considered Dr. Speer the wisest leader in missions that we have had during the last half century. His understanding relative to all questions has been greatly admired by us and we have trusted absolutely in his approach to the entire missionary enterprise. His motives and spirit have been our inspiration; and many times, when the Lutheran Church

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DR. ROBERT E. SPEER

Mr. President, you dear and lifelong friends who have been speaking with such over-generous love, and all of you good friends who are here today, I don't need to say that this is an awfully appalling occasion for me, with emphasis on the "pall". I entreated my associates in the Executive Council to postpone any celebration of this sort for six years when Dr^l McAfee and I would be retiring together and at which time somebody said that Dr. Schell had also threatened to quit. It seemed to me that that would be the occasion when the three of us might go down in "one red burial blent" and the rest of you might then indulge in obsequies to an unlimited extent. But they were possessed by an immediate mortuary infatuation complex and were unwilling to wait. So we are gathered here now and I have a feeling of ^{penitence and} shame at being all alone the cause of all this. If there had been two or three more I think we could have pulled through, but this is an awful ordeal for one poor individual who doesn't take himself very seriously, or anybody else for that matter, and who tries to realize just what true proportions and honest measurements really are.

One finds it really very hard to appreciate why so much should be made of one's hanging on for forty years! It would seem to indicate a want of ambition and initiative - just to stay on, anybody can do that! I do think, however, that it is a virtue that we have to emphasize in missionary enterprise today when we have so much of "short term service to see whether you like it or not."

I read recently an interesting interview in which Hurry-Up Yost, the emeritus coach of the University of Michigan eleven, was asked what nationality in his experience made the best kind of football players. "Polish" he replied, "because a Pole is a man who if you will put him anywhere will stay there until he is killed. But on second thought," he added, "I think the Scotch Irish are even better, for if you put a Scotch Irishman anywhere he will stay until the other man is killed." This is the type of iron persistence the missionary enterprise ^{has} called for and is calling for today.

You would not want any long speech from me this afternoon, especially after the presentation of this "bridal wreath". I thought it was a wedding cake. Now I find that you can't eat it at all, much less the fruit that comes out of it! I could make a long and serious speech. I could draw up a balance sheet of forty years with credits and debits. I did that at the end of the year when I was Moderator but I found the debit items an unpopular subject. For my own good I draw up a balance sheet every day with an unsparing hand as to the items on the debit side of the account, but here I will speak only of bright things.

What ^{first} comes into one's mind in all the love and goodwill of this gathering is that when these friends have been describing these forty years they have ^{been} in reality holding up the ideals which we are all trying to realize but fail though we long to draw nearer to them. ^{Then} what comes into one's mind ^{next} as he looks at this gathering of love and goodwill and then back over the years is the long way ahead that we have come in these forty years. An intimacy of affection and a tenderness of relationships characterize us now which

I don't think were present in the same sense or degree forty years ago. There is a kindliness of feeling on the field far in advance of what we knew then. Those were the days of powerful personalities that clashed in a great many of our Missions. Perhaps the harmony today is due in part to the disappearance of these exceptional types and to the lifting of the whole average but I think that at home and in ^{the}missions abroad there is a closeness of affection and personal friendship in advance of what we knew forty years ago.

Second, there has been a great increase in the effectiveness of the work: in strength of administration, avoidance of waste motions, clarity of vision, and will to adapt means to the ends. This is true too at home and abroad. I remember Mr. Rankin, former treasurer of the Board, who represented the old regime. He wore a capacious slouch hat, it was said, and very often when a large check came in he would tuck it away in the lining of that slouch hat. Towards the end of the year if the receipts seemed to be lagging he would take something out from the lining of his hat but as like as not the checks would be allowed to stay there until ^{the} next year if they were not needed to balance the books. Nobody carries checks in hats today. In those days field balances piled up ⁱⁿ big accumulations through long periods of years made some of the missions almost independent agencies. This could not happen today, ~~We~~ we are all members of one body and we suffer or rejoice together.

I can see what gain there has been in clarifying the question of aims and ideals. There were some ^{great} men who put brains into the missionary undertaking ^{in the old days,} Rufus Anderson and Dr. Ellinwood were two outstanding minds ^{in the study} of missionary problems but many did not see mission policy very clearly. You hear people say ^{that} the central ideals are not as clear today.

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I think the central ideals and problems and issues are much clearer today than they were forty years ago. New difficulties certainly have arisen and we have to face fresh and heavy liabilities that recent years have uncovered, but on the other hand there are new opportunities, new assets, new resources.

Certainly there is a far wider intelligence and more general interest in the work of foreign missions now than forty years ago and I do not see that the criticisms with which we are familiar today are one whit more hostile than they were then.

I read an address by one of our good missionary leaders not long ago in which he deplored the lack of missionary interest in the Church today and contrasted it with the old days "when every man was interested in the missionary enterprise." I do not remember these days and I do not think there ever were such days. There is sufficient indifference and ignorance and opposition now but we need not be afraid of it and we will not be afraid of it.

In looking out beyond the Church across the world one realizes that while there is much that is the same there is much also that represents a total and fundamental change. The different parts of the old world were so indifferent to one another that you could travel around the whole world almost without a passport. Now we have a world so closely inter-knit and so self-conscious and independently concerned that you can hardly cross a single national boundary without credentials. Old superstitions are gone but there is the danger that with them the view of human life as related to an invisible power which is the foundation of all religion may be undermined also. The anti-Christian forces of the non-Christian world are now penetrating

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the world that used to be called Christian and ~~anti~~-Christian forces in that nominally Christian world are diffusing themselves through the whole of mankind. The battle is the same that it has always been but it is now unmistakably a world struggle. Any one who shirks his share in it as a

world struggle is disqualifying himself for the conflict in any single nation.

But laying all these things aside what one thinks of ^{most} today is the blessed associations of these forty years. My older brother, who was a lawyer here in New York, active in Democratic politics, a newspaper man, a Gibraltar of personal integrity, who saved the city millions of dollars as corporation counsel in connection with land acquisition for the new water system in the Catskills, and whose associations grew out of these relationships, spoke to me enviously once of the difference between his friendships and mine. Indeed work like this has for forty years thrown one into

association with the best and most unselfish, the most ample-minded and Christian spirited men and women throughout the world - the very best in every race in every land. I think of the older missionaries I knew intimately and loved: Hepburn, Guido Verbeck, David Thompson, and William Imbrie of Japan, Nevius and Martin and Mateer and Kerr, with whom I took a long interior journey in China; and Labaree and Cochran and Holmes of Persia; Chamberlain and Lane of Brazil; and McGillivray and Wilson and Dunlap of Siam;

And I rejoice to think of the friendship of men of other nations, of loving fellowship with them and long continued correspondence: Masahisa Uemura, Kajinosuke Ibuka, and Rempé Minami of Japan; ^{Koli Charan} Chatterji and ^{Shivaram} Masoji of India; Kasha Mooshe Dooman and Mirza Saeed Khan of Persia; Arcadio Morelis of Mexico and Alvaro Reis and Eduardo Pereria and Erasmo Brage of Brazil and ^{Frederic Figueras} of Chile.

The friendship of these men has been worth all that these forty years have involved.

And then one looks about on the faces of the good and great men whose portraits hang on the walls of this room, I think of our four Presidents of the Board whom I have known and whose portraits are here: Dr. Wells, Dr. Paxton, Dr. Alexander, Sir James Ewing. Dr. Wells I met when I was a boy in college and went to speak at a missionary meeting in Lakewood, N. J., where I saw his show-white head and beard, and where he came up after the meeting with the benignity and affection that were characteristic of him and the friendship began that lasted through life. And I think of some of the ordained men, members of the Board, who are gone: Will Richards, John Patterson and Dr. Booth, who was one of the best informed men in this country on affairs in Africa. And the great laymen of the Board come back to one's mind, beginning with William T. Booth and Ezra ^{m.} Kingsley. Mr. Booth was chairman of the committee which nominated me as secretary of the Board. And Mr. Warner Van Norden and Dr. Joseph Kerr were the other members. And there were Henry Ide and D. W. McWilliams, Vice-Presidents of the Board, and Darwin R. James, and my dear uncle William Stiger, ~~the~~ chairman of the finance committee. And I dare not trust myself to speak of friendships here in the offices with Dr. Ellinwood, Dr. Gillespie, Woodruff Halsey, Stanley White, William Dulles, Charles Hand, and the dear friends who are here still. And ~~then~~ there have been the women in the old Women's Boards, and then in the united Woman's Board, and throughout the Missions, the ablest and noblest women that one could find on earth.

But there is too much to say, and one must not be too serious in its saying. Our business is to forget the past, to start out from here upon new days. If I were to take myself seriously, I would be putting it all in some lines of Whittier's which I learned long ago as a lad:

Let the thick curtain fall
I better know than all
How little I have gained
How vast the unattained

Others shall sing the song
Others shall right the wrong
Finish what I begin
And all I fail of win

What matter I or they
Mine or another's day
So the right word be said
And life the sweeter made

Ring bells in uncreared steeples
The joy of unborn peoples
Sound trumpets far off blown
Your triumph is my own

Only not taking ourselves seriously but with the careless and
resolved courage of the new day's dawn we are going to start off now - all of
us - for new times, new deeds, new struggles and, thank God, new victories.

JOHN WILSON WOOD, D.C.L.
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

THE REV. A. B. PARSON
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

SECRETARY FOR LATIN AMERICA

~

J. G. VAUGHAN, M.D., MEDICAL ADVISER
(150 Fifth Avenue, New York)

~

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LEWIS B. FRANKLIN, TREASURER

~

IN REPLY TO THIS LETTER,
PLEASE REFER TO ITS DATE

October 16, 1931.

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:

I have received your letter of October 13th concerning the Fortieth Anniversary of Dr. Robert E. Speer.

In order to tell the truth about Robert Speer one would have to draw upon all the superlatives at his command. However, as superlatives sometimes defeat their own ends no matter how accurate they may be, I realize that you will exercise suitable restraint.

As a friend of all mission boards other than those of his own Communion, Speer has ever been staunch, appreciative, sympathetic and most unselfish in time and strength. He has given ^{great help} both in thinking through missionary problems and in accepting invitations to speak on behalf of the work of other boards. You must feel as I do, that Speer belongs not to the Presbyterians alone, but to the whole Christian Church, especially in its missionary operations. His power as a speaker, his vigor as a writer, his clearness as a thinker have been invaluable to other boards.

As a leader in the work of foreign missions, Speer

Dr. Bartholomew - 2 -

to my mind, is the out-standing figure in the world today and has been for these many years. What I have said above in connection with his relation to the boards, applies in part to his leadership in the work of foreign missions. Speer is always sane in his approach to difficult questions. He never takes himself seriously. He never gives you the impression that he thinks he is an oracle. On the contrary, with humility and humanness, with keenness of intellect and depth of spiritual purpose, he goes to the heart of every question and every situation. Many times you have seen him as I have, in a conference, clear away a mass of sentimentalism on the one hand or loose thinking on the other, and point out with almost invariably unerring accuracy, the real elements to be taken into consideration.

His devotion to the cause, his ability to see clearly and to think straight, his power to express himself, his marvelous memory, his sympathy with all forward movements, his absolute squareness and integrity, his balance and sanity, his reverence for human nature, his reliance upon God - all these and other qualities combine to put Robert Speer in a class by himself and to make him the out-standing leader in foreign mission enterprise of the past forty years.

Sincerely yours,

Ben H. Wood

JWW:MK

*I'm sorry you could not be at CCC
trustees Oct 15.*

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The Rt. Rev. Karl A. Mueller, D.D., (1913)
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Treasurer of Missions:
PAUL DE SCHWEINITZ, D.D., (1898)

October 14th, 1931.

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:-

I am somewhat puzzled to know how to
comply with your request of the 13th inst.

But I have tried to reduce to writing some of my impressions
of Dr. Speer, altho I do not know just what use you can make of
them.

It certainly will be a memorable occasion on November 2nd,
and I wish you much joy and blessing in it.

Very cordially yours,

Paul de Schweinitz

It is manifestly impossible to say in a few words what Dr. Robert E. Speer has been~~x~~/ to the entire Foreign Missionary enterprize, and what an inspiration he has been to all Mission Boards and their executive officers. His grasp of missionary problems makes him easily one of the outstanding missionary statemen of this epoch. His convincing manner of presenting the missionary principles almost compels assent. His winsome method of presenting these truths makes an almost irresistible appeal. His~~s~~ sound schlarship and his marvellously wide reading~~s~~ gives him a tremendous influence in all missionary circles.

Above all his unswerving loyalty to our Lord Jesus Christ~~s~~ awakens a confidence in all who labor with him. His faith in this blessed Lord makes it poss~~s~~ible for him to present an optimistic message even in these days of perplexity and strain and strees. His is not a shallow optimism, but one based upon the experience of the upholding strength of a living Lord, and thus he inspires others with new courage and confidence.

What his friendship and fellowship has~~e~~ been to me personally I can not easily describe. It has been a great privilege to have been associated with him in a small way and to have shared in his winning companionship.

PAUL DE SCHWEINITZ,
Treasurer of Moravian Missions.

Bethlehem, Pa.,
October 14th, 1931.

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TORONTO 5, ONT., October 16th.

1931.

The Reverend
Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.
Board of Foreign Missions,
Schaff Building,
1505 Race St.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:-

I am leaving the City tomorrow morning and can only send a hurried reply to your letter. Neither you, nor your hearers, on November 2nd. will judge, I trust, my estimate and appreciation of Dr. Robert Elliott Speer by the necessary brevity of this letter.

We shall all envy you the privilege of conveying to those present the general sense of Dr. Speer's worth and service.

I have known Dr. Speer, more or less intimately, for about twenty-five years, and can only say that if the impression of his gifts and merits, made upon others is in any considerable degree commensurate to those made upon myself; then the Board which has received the benefit of his zeal and work is discharging the most direct of its duties in proposing to pay him honour on "the fortieth anniversary of his election," and is conferring a distinct favour upon a multitude of his friends when it permits a few of them to endeavour to express their sense of the greatness of his gifts and the distinguished character and calibre of his contribution to the cause of the Christian faith in general, and to that of Christian missions in particular.

I know of no man, of our day and generation, who by his endowments of tongue and pen has conferred greater benefits upon the Church at large, and in whose personality and spirit a larger number of admirers and well-wishers consider it a privilege to enjoy a sense of possession.

May the abundant benefits conferred upon others, through Dr. Speer's forty years of service, be "twice blessed", and returning rest in richest measure upon himself, equipping him for still greater service, and filling his mind and soul with all joy and peace, for the years that remain.

Believe me,

Yours very faithfully,

SG-G

General Secretary M.S.C.C.

"The Love of Christ Constraineth Us"

United Christian Missionary Society

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CABLE ADDRESS "Go"

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

October 28, 1931

Dr. A. R. Bartholomew,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:

I have your letter concerning the fortieth anniversary of the election of Dr. Robert E. Speer as secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions. I wish I might be present at this anniversary of my dear friend in the work, Dr. Robert E. Speer. It was largely under his influence that I volunteered for foreign service thirty-six years ago, and he has been one of my greatest inspirations ever since. Dr. Speer is the personal embodiment of the foreign missionary enterprise. By his great ability, his untiring energy, his masterful leadership, and his grasp of the world mission of Christianity, he has challenged a great host of leaders in all lands. His aggressive books and his spiritual leadership have deepened the Christian life of many thousands.

I cherish his personal friendship greatly and wish him many more years of service in this great cause which is dearer to him than life.

Sincerely yours,

WILFRED W. FRY
CHAIRMAN

ROGER H. WILLIAMS - RALPH W. HARBISON - W. S. LESLIE
VICE-CHAIRMEN

WALTER W. HEA
TREASURER

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E. T. COLTON, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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HARRY BALLANTYNE
GENERAL SECRETARY, CANADIAN COUNCIL

October 22, 1931.

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D. D.,
Room 310 Schaff Building,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

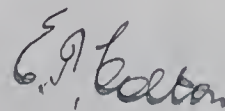
My dear Dr. Bartholomew:

Returning to my correspondence from quite an extended absence I have before me your request of October 12th.

The debt I owe Robert E. Speer dates back to student days and my earliest service as a Y.M.C.A. student secretary. The indebtedness grows bigger with the years, for both as a man and great Board administrator he has poured out on all of us the abounding richness of his life as a Christian whose graces ever overflowed and refreshed the dry places in the hearts of men and women across the world.

You have a great life to which to witness on November 2nd, and I am sure you will fulfill the high mission.

Yours sincerely,



E. T. Colton

ETC n

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Secretaries: J. H. OLDHAM; WILLIAM PATON, 2 Eaton Gate, London, S.W. 1
A. L. WARNSHUIS, 419 Fourth Ave., New York City

October 15, 1931.

Dr. A. R. Bartholomew,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:

I am very glad to learn that you are going to speak on behalf of all the foreign missionary boards at the Fortieth Anniversary of Dr. Speer's services as Secretary of the Presbyterian Board. Your letter reaches me at a time when I am very much crowded and unable to give any thought to your question. I assume that you are writing this way to a number of other board secretaries and that you will be abundantly supplied with much good material for your address. I can only give you a few brief hints of some of the things that might be said.

From our special point of view and with particular reference to the development of cooperation between the boards, we have always looked upon Dr. Speer as one of our best friends, strong in counsel and able in leadership. Of course he was directly concerned in the early organization of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America. He was one of the outstanding leaders in the World Conference in Edinburgh in 1910. He was again the leader in organizing the Conferences for Latin America, at Panama and Montevideo and Havana, and has from the beginning been the Chairman on the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America. Again, he was one of the leaders at Jerusalem and he has been active continuously in many ways in all of the developments of cooperative plans. Under his leadership, and with the support of his influence, the Presbyterian Board participates in more union institutions on the mission field than any other mission board in the world.

I surely do not need to tell you anything about Dr. Speer's splendid leadership in the whole missionary movement with his strong evangelistic purpose and his wise counsel.

With cordial greetings, I am

Yours very sincerely,

ALW/MHS

A. L. Warnshuis



**BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
150 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N.Y.**

October 16, 1931

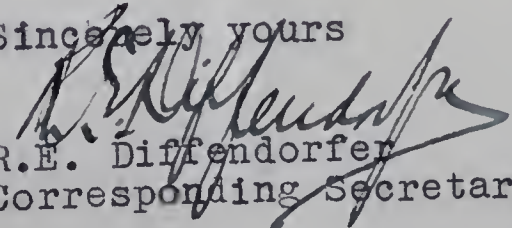
Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew
1505 Race Street
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Dr. Bartholomew,

From my first glimpse of Robert E. Speer as a speaker at a Student Conference at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, when I was a college student thirty years ago, down to the present day as I am intimately associated with him in administrative and cooperative relationships in the missionary enterprise, he has been a continual inspiration to me personally and a wise counselor on matters of missionary administration. We have marveled at the orderliness of his mind and his ability to give adequate attention to a great variety of matters. His long and rich experience, his own deep devotion to the cause of Christ throughout the world, and his courageous advocacy of the cause of foreign missions have constituted in him an inspiring example to us all.

Through you, we congratulate the Presbyterian Church and its Board of Foreign Missions and the entire Christian world on his forty years of experience as a Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions.

Sincerely yours



R.E. Diffendorfer
Corresponding Secretary

ABG

33

YALE UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
DWIGHT HALL

NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

October 30, 1931.

Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew,
1505 Race St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Doctor Bartholomew:

Your letter of October 13th came at a time when I could not think straight, even about such an important thing as the message it contained. We have just dedicated new quarters for our Christian Association here at Yale, and the major celebration came on Friday night last. During the past six weeks I have simply neglected everything that did not relate to this one task. I hope you will forgive me.

In answering your request that I say something about Dr. Speer, I think I can best do it by referring to a little talk I gave some years ago to theological students here in New England. At that time I said there were three men who had influenced me most profoundly in my religious thinking as an undergraduate. The three were Dr. Henry Sloane Coffin, Dr. Richard Roberts of Toronto, and Dr. Robert E. Speer. From Coffin I got the most help in my conception of what God is like. From Roberts I got a new insight as to the ethical significance of Jesus; and from Dr. Speer I caught a vision of what absolute and uncompromising devotion to Christ could mean in a life.

I still feel exactly that way about Dr. Speer. I have seen him in connection with our Student Volunteer work very often during the last fifteen years, and I watched him at work at Jerusalem. Largely through his influence the missionary enterprise has come to be my major interest in life. It is the most unusual thing in the world, I think, to see a man who lives up to what he believes. It is what the world needs most at the present time. Dr. Speer has embodied for me this absolute sincerity and integrity, and I am delighted at the privilege of saying so.

Please believe that the only reason for this delay has been that all my mail not directly bearing on the Dedication of Dwight Hall was held aside until that big event was over.

Most cordially yours,

Fay Campbell.

EFC/M

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Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.,
205 Race Street, Phila., Pa.

October 15, 1931

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:

It gives me great pleasure to
reply to your letter of October 13th, and you may use what
I write as you see fit:

Dr. Robert E. Speer is the primus inter pares,
the first among equals, the man to whom we confidently
turn for the definition of a policy or the solution of a
problem in our common missionary endeavor. He
has guided us by counsel not command. He has
a heart of brotherly love, a profound knowledge of
Christian teaching, a voice of penetrating wisdom
yet sweet winsomeness in discussion, and a
fine hand of spiritual strength in the guidance
of the affairs which he touches.

We all rejoice that God has given him forty
years of fruitful service as a secretary of one of the
great missionary boards of the Protestant Churches.
When he has finished his work among us, as God
shall decide, he who seeks no reward except his
Master's approval and the good-will of his brethren, will
see the fulfillment of the promises of Jesus Christ.

Yours sincerely,
George Drach

FRANK MASON NORTH
16 MADISON AVENUE
MADISON, NEW JERSEY

October 26, 1931

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:

I have been, for these twelve days, in Atlanta at our Ecumenical Conference and my opportunities for some casual correspondence have been very slight. Of course I am keenly interested in the proposal to celebrate the 40th year of Dr. Speer's election to his distinguished and influential position. You will have assembled by this time the opinions and estimates you need - and, indeed, your own long association with Dr. Speer will have given you impressions of him which stated as you can state them will, I should say, unerringly represent the judgment of those who have been associated with him. For over forty years - many of them in rather close fellowship with him, he has been to me, in a high sense, strength and comfort. His patience, his tolerance, his clear thinking, his ceaseless industry, his broad outlook, his balanced judgment, his unflinching recognition of the spiritual elements in every great or problem have been a constant resource. Of course it is his personality which counts most. Even should one not agree with him, the difference of view would leave only the sense of real fellowship in some higher sense.

You will say what should be said I hope to be there on Monday

Cordially Yours

Frank Mason North

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY
BIBLE HOUSE ASTOR PLACE
NEW YORK CITY



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TREASURER

CABLE ADDRESS
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Oct. 17, 1931.

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.,
Board of Foreign Missions
Reformed Church in the United States,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia, Penn.

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:

The writing of an estimate of Dr. Speer requires more the search for adequate words than a hunt for the qualities that deserve praise. To all of us will occur the depth of his devotion, the rounded fullness of his service, his scorn of cant; and of diluted versions of the real facts which he so penetratingly endeavors to find, and the impression that he makes upon us all of the depth of his rootage in vital faith in Christ.

But some might not add his readiness to listen, his remarkable capacity for being ahead of his work, and his sense of humor. I am sure that these you have already thought of but I am glad to help in so good a cause.

Faithfully yours,

Eric M. North
Eric M. North

37

National Board
of the
Young Womens Christian Associations
of the United States of America

Cable Address
Emissarius, New York

600 Lexington Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Telephone
Plaza 3 - 4700

Annual Meeting of the Foreign Division, January 16-18, 1932, Washington, D.C.

October 27, 1931

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.
Room 310 Schaff Building
1505 Race Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

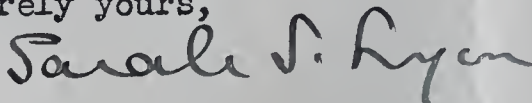
My dear Dr. Bartholomew:

This is a very belated reply to your request of October 12 but I have been aghast at even trying to state in a few words anything adequate to express my estimate of Dr. Speer. Even now I would much prefer to have you take what I say and if you use it at all couch it in your own words because I am not gifted with facility of expression and it will poorly convey what should be said.

These are the adjectives I think of when I try to describe even to myself Dr. Speer's significant service for missions: long - continuous - consistent - unwearying - scholarly - reassuring. The last one named is one that should be emphasized for how many times I have seen a meeting get into a certain spirit of doubt or hesitancy or discouragement or confusion and have heard a few words from Dr. Speer resolve that atmosphere to one of reassurance and constructive outlook. He has to an unusual degree the art of synthesis, taking what everyone has said in a discussion and expressing the consensus of opinion on a high level instead of emphasizing the differences in the points of view brought out in the discussion. As for your label given him, "a friend of the boards", what could I not say on that subject when he is the husband of the Mrs. Speer who has been president of the particular board I serve for sixteen years! Why he is not only our friend but our collective helpmeet!

I wish you happiness on the auspicious occasion.

Sincerely yours,



Sarah S. Lyon
Executive
Foreign Division

SSL.EK

General Mission Board

OF THE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
INCORPORATED

Elgin, Illinois

22 SOUTH STATE ST.

CABLE ADDRESS
'BRETHREN'

ORG.
1863

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TREASURER

Oct. 16, 1931.

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D. D.,
Room 310 Schaff Bldg.,
1505 Race St.,
Philadelphia, Penna.

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:

We are glad that you will be present at the Fortieth Anniversary of the election of Dr. Robert Elliott Speer as Senior Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. I know of no one who will be able to refer to Dr. Speer's great record better than yourself out of your long years of relationship in the co-operative cause of Christian missions by the American Boards.

One hesitates to say anything concerning Dr. Speer. He is so well known, so keenly appreciated, and his strength outstanding that any of our personal opinions would mean very little. I can only offer, as one of his many admirers, my testimony to his wonderful contribution to the cause of Christian missions. He has given forty years of the strength of his penetrating mind, his fine Biblical scholarship, his lofty and devoted Christian character, and has done it all with such beauty of spirit and excellence of statesmanship that we all thank God for Dr. Speer, and trust the Lord will give him many years of further usefulness for our common cause.

Trusting you will have a blessed and profitable fellowship together, and assuring you of our best wishes therefore, I am

Most cordially yours,

Chas. D. Bonsack

CDB:P

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BOARD OF MISSIONS
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH

W. G. CRAM, GENERAL SECRETARY

DOCTORS' BUILDING

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

October 21, 1931.

Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew,
Schaff Building,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:

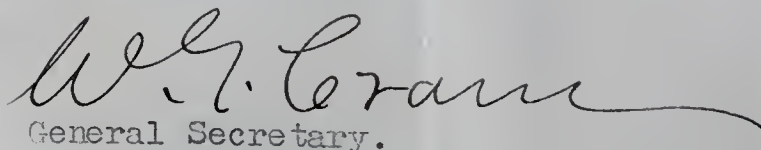
Replying to your communication of October 13th I am herewith handing you our estimate of Dr. Robert E. Speer as a Foreign Secretary and Christian statesman:

While Dr. Speer has been a Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., he has also, in a peculiar sense, been an honorary secretary of all Boards of Foreign Missions.

His clear insight of all missionary problems and tasks coupled with years of administrative experience make him perhaps the most valued leader in the field of applied missions.

Missionary secretaries of all Boards desire to have his final judgment on all questions. No less does the rank and file of the Protestant churches look eagerly to his leadership and listen carefully to his pronouncements. The Secretaries of the Board of Missions of the M. E. Church, South, felicitate Dr. Speer and his Board upon this happy occasion.

Most sincerely yours,


General Secretary.

WGC/S

STUDENT VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT

419 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

October 22, 1931

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:

In response to your letter of October 13, let me give you at least a hurriedly written word concerning Dr. Speer, as follows:

No man has ever impressed me as having come more completely under the sway of Jesus Christ than has Dr. Robert E. Speer. Surely no one is more Christocentric, in his every thought, ideal, and aspiration. Nothing is more characteristic of him than these words which he so often quotes:

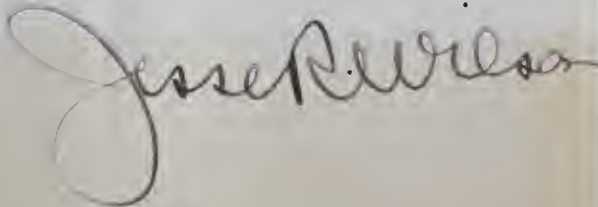
"Christ! I am Christ's! and let the name suffice you,
Ay, for me too He greatly hath sufficed:
Lo with no winning words I would entice you,
Paul has no honour and no friend but Christ.

.....
.....
"Yea thro' life, death, thro' sorrow and thro' sinning
He shall suffice me, for he hath sufficed:
Christ is the end, for Christ was the beginning,
Christ the beginning, for the end is Christ."

The result of this devotion and allegiance has very clearly colored and strengthened every natural faculty with which he seems to have been so richly endowed. Clarity of judgment, keenness of insight, depth of conviction, and capacity for sustained and unaltering endeavor seem to mark him to an almost incomparable degree. In the Student Volunteer Movement through the years we have learned to love him and look to him as a never failing source of inspiration and counsel.

I shall feel greatly honored if this helps you any at all in framing an estimate of Dr. Speer.

Sincerely,



Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew,
Board of Foreign Missions,
Reformed Church in the U.S.,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Eleventh Quadrennial Convention, Buffalo, New York, December 30, 1931 to January 3, 1932
Theme: The Living Christ in the World of Today

JRW:LN

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THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
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DISTRICT SECRETARY
HOLLAND, MICH.

CABLE ADDRESS: SYNODICAL, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE: ALGONQUIN 2151

October 15, 1931

The Revd. A.R. Bartholomew, D.D.,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:

Your note of October 12th has just reached me.

Age has its privileges as well as its burdens. In this case I think that none of your younger colleagues should draw any red herrings across the trail of your own fine thought and generous estimate of the mutual friend of us all, Dr. Speer.

The two words that always come to my mind in connection with this servant of the churches and servant of God are strength and power, the strength that he has gathered through these years of rare and rich experience and the increasing power which he is exercising by reason of it.

I confess your final appeal as to "help at a time of need" does not so much impress me because we all know of your own rich resources of insight and sympathy.

Yours very cordially,



WIC/C

Oct. 18th, 1931.

Dear Dr. Brtholomew,

I do not envy you your task if you are to condense in one brief address all the interesting things that will be said by Dr. Speer's many friends of the various boards. Still less do I envy Dr. Speer the necessity of hearing all those things said. However, the occasion is a ^{note} worthy one and I am glad you are to represent us all..

I hope you will make clear that Dr. Speer belongs to the entire fellowship of foreign boards almost as much as he does to his own denominational board. Whether we think of him as the scholarly interpreter of the history and philosophy of missions, as the champion of the cause in the face of the current uncertainty, doubt and opposition, or as the adviser of individual missionaries and missionary administrators, it is plain that the boards one and all will claim him as their own. This can be said of him as it can of no other man in the fellowship of the foreign work.

I presume the general Christian public will think of Dr. Speer in terms of his eloquence on the platform, as the outstanding figure of our time in the presentation of the broader aspects of the Gospel of Christ. I find myself thinking of him primarily in his power of analysis, when confronting a complicated problem of policy or administration, his genius for penetrating to the heart of the matter, of offering solutions which may appear to be the result of intuition, but which in reality are the outcome of a balanced and reasoning mind. How much we have owed to him in this realm, only those who have sat at his side year after year in the meetings of Reference and Counsel can tell. That brain of his has been a mighty factor in the making of cooperative missionary history during these forty years.

But I want to say that most of all I think of Dr. Speer as a man of Christ, one through whom the spirit of the Master ^{shines} with a radiance as kindly as it is pervasive. I think all who meet him and all who hear him feel drawn to him as a brother and friend. My first direct knowledge of Dr. Speer came in connection with a meeting in Park Street Church, Boston, which he addressed some thirty years ago. I forget the nature of the meeting, but it was enough that it was addressed by Robert E. Speer, then comparatively young. As the audience went out under the spell of his vibrant voice,

a lady remarked, "What must it be to the mother of such a man?" That was a question just one woman could answer, and perhaps not she. But I thank God there are multitudes of people in many lands who can say what it has meant to be the friend of such a man.

Fraternally yours,

Cornelius H. Patton

The United Church of Canada

Board of Foreign Missions

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REV. A. E. ARMSTRONG, D.D.
REV. JESSE H. ARNUP, D.D.

299 QUEEN ST. WEST
TORONTO 2, CANADA

Oct. 16, 1931.

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.,
Room 310 Schaff Bldg.,
1505 Race St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.,
U.S.A.

My dear Dr. Bartholomew,

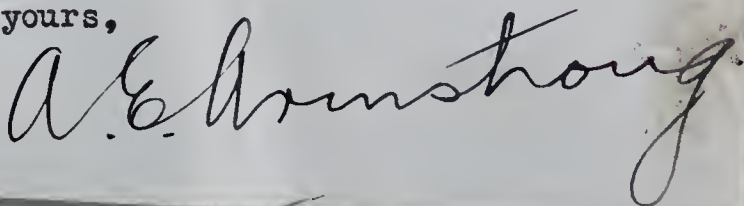
I have your letter of Oct. 13th and I am very glad to send you the enclosed though I am much dissatisfied with it for it does not at all adequately express my regard for and esteem of our dear friend Dr. Speer. I hope you can find adjectives and phrases for the interesting occasion of Nov. 2nd which will much more fittingly indicate to the gathering what his brethren in the Mission Boards of this continent think of him.

I am hoping to be present on that occasion but it is just possible something may intervene to prevent.

You were kind enough to enclose a stamped, addressed envelope but I am returning it because long ago a political party in this country failed to win its way to power on the issue of reciprocity with the United States and so we have no interchange of postal facilities between your country and ours.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,





SAMUEL G. ZIEGLER
GENERAL SECRETARY

FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST
1410 U. B. BUILDING

MRS. J. HAL SMITH
SPECIAL SUPPORT SEC.

DAYTON, OHIO

Oct. 17, 1931.

Dr. A. L. Bartholomew,
15th & Race Sts.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:

In reply to your request of October 13, I am sending you the following expression of appreciation of the unusual leadership which Dr. Robert E. Speer has given to the foreign missionary work of the Church.

It is a joy to share in this way the fortieth anniversary of Dr. Robert E. Speer's elevation to the Secretaryship of the foreign mission work of the Presbyterian Church. He has always seemed to me as "a man sent from God" to guide the destinies of the foreign enterprise of the Kingdom. From my college days, when I first heard him, down to the present, his great life has been both a challenge and inspiration to the best in my life.

The church and the whole missionary enterprise is greatly indebted to him for his statesman-like leadership during these forty years. It is difficult to imagine what the work would be like had Robert Speer not been with us to lead on and show the way.

His life, his books and his messages have helped to make the path of faith clear to multitudes. He has so exalted Christ that Christ has become real and the Christian way practical to men. They see and believe because they have seen the Life in him.

I love and appreciate him both because of what he has meant to me and to the cause.

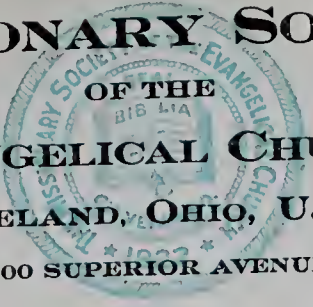
Sincerely yours,

S. G. Ziegler
General Secretary.

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THE
MISSIONARY SOCIETY
 OF THE
EVANGELICAL CHURCH
 CLEVELAND, OHIO, U. S. A.
 1900 SUPERIOR AVENUE



OFFICE
 OF THE
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 SECRETARY-TREASURER
 REV. WILLIAM L. BOLLMAN, D. D.
 1900 SUPERIOR AVE.
 CLEVELAND, OHIO
 —
 CABLE CODE "EVANGEL"
 PHONE PROSPECT 2968
 —

October 27th, 1931.

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:-

The Missionary Society of the Evangelical Church responds with great pleasure to your invitation of recent date, and joins with her sisters in Kingdom enterprises, in conveying, through you, our most hearty congratulations to our friend and co-laborer, Dr. Robert E. Speer, the Senior Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions in the United States of America, on the completion of forty years of distinguished service rendered to the cause of Christian Missions.

Missionary annals are a continued serial of consecrated personality. This service can not be limited by geographical areas. The missionary on the distant station and the Executive in his directional and inspirational activity at home - both "Helpers of God", are vital elements in the missionary enterprise. By the wisdom of his counsel in the inner circles of administrative responsibility, and by the challenge of his public address, Dr. Speer has been privileged to give an unparalleled contribution to the cause of foreign missions.

The qualities of the man which have made such outstanding service for humanity are: the charm of a gracious personality; the balance of a trained intellect and a burning heart; choice diction on the public platform and the printed page; ability to organize the facts and philosophy of missions in a convincing manner; accessibility as a friend and counsellor; the human touch and the catholic spirit; and above all a humble yet unshaken loyalty to the cardinal truths of Christianity. All who know the man, his messages and his ministry will join you on this felicitous occasion with well wishes for your guest of honor, and an earnest prayer for the continuance of his helpful ministry.

I cherish the privilege of my personal appreciation. His ministry came to me first via Northfield in the formative years of my ministry; the influence of his addresses; the association in kingdom enterprises, and the contagion of his devotion place upon me the debt of affectionate regard.

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew,
 Room 310 Schaff Building,
 1505 Race Street,
 Philadelphia, Penna.,

WLB:MCS.

The United Church of Canada

Board of Foreign Missions

299 QUEEN ST. WEST
TORONTO 2, CANADA

October 29, 1931.

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.,
Room 310 Schaff Building,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia,
Pa.

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:-

I am sorry that I was down at Atlanta when your letter reached my office, but I greatly appreciate your kind invitation to me to say a word regarding our beloved brother and leader, Dr. Robert E. Speer, and I shall try to be at once frank and brief, as you would wish.

Without a moment's hesitation I would say that I believe Dr. Speer is the most gifted, most trusted, most useful and best loved foreign missionary secretary in the world today. I believe the foreign missionary secretaries would not only agree to this but would demand such recognition for our great leader. Moreover, we all know why we love and respect him so sincerely and deeply. In the first place, he is one of the outstanding Christians of the world. No man of our generation has been more consistently and deeply loyal to our Lord than he. If ever there is even a shade of intolerance manifested by our friend, it is only when he senses a tendency to render something less than full honor to our Divine Lord. Again, he has brought to the cause of foreign missions not only an acute but a spacious and comprehending mind. He has studied with patience every aspect of the foreign missionary enterprise and has made all his brethren his debtors by the fulness of his knowledge and the ripeness of his wisdom. Lastly, with all his fine gifts, there is no man among us who possesses more winsomeness and rich brotherliness than does our great friend.

I am glad to know that you have been selected to represent your brethren on the anniversary occasion next Monday, and though I shall not be there in person I shall be with you in spirit.

Very sincerely yours,

James Rudicott.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES
COMMITTEE ON THE ASSEMBLY'S WORK



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

POST OFFICE BOX 330
NASHVILLE, TENN.

113 SIXTEENTH AVE

CABLE "LIBERATE"

EGBERT W. SMITH
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

C. DARBY FULTON
LEAD AND CANDIDATE SECRETARY
ACTING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

October 15, 1931

Rev. Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew,
Room 310 Schaff Building,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:-

Your letter of October 13 to Dr. Smith in regard to the Fortieth Anniversary of the election of Dr. Robert E. Speer as Foreign Mission Secretary has been received in his absence. Dr. Smith sailed October 3 for Africa and I know it will be with real regret that he cannot have a personal part in this tribute to Dr. Speer. But there is no possible way in which we could reach him and receive a message.

However, I am turning your letter over to Dr. C. Darby Fulton, the acting Executive Secretary, who I am sure will see to it that our Board has an official part in this anniversary celebration.

Yours very sincerely,

Secretary to Dr. Smith.

LW/d

Dr. Fulton returns to Nashville next week.

Canadian Baptist Foreign Mission Board

ROY L. KELLOCK, B.
SOLICITOR OF THE
TO

A. A. WILSON, K.C.,
ADMINISTRATOR OF T
FUNDS, EASTERN SECT
ST. JOHN

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RANK INRIG, TORONTO

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EV. A. P. MCDIARMID,
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ROBSON, B.C.

REV. JOHN MACNEILL, B.A., D.D.
CHAIRMAN

REV. H. E. STILLWELL, B.A., D.D.
GENERAL SECRETARY

R. D. WARREN
GENERAL TREASURER

HEADQUARTERS: 223 CHURCH ST.

TORONTO 2, October 27th, 193...
CANADA

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.,
Room 310 Schaff Bldg.,
1505 Race St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:

In reference to your letter of October 13th, an answer to which has been delayed through my absence from the office, I am now writing a brief word about Dr. Robt. E. Speer.

Dr. Speer spans my whole period of student and missionary service for I heard him first in Detroit away back in 1892, speaking on "The Strategy of Foreign Missions" I still remember him distinctly and the impression he made that night. He is one of the few men who have left such an abiding influence.

In these later and more mature years I have always thought of him along with Dr. John R. Mott, these two being great stalwarts in the Foreign Mission Cause. I have always associated Dr. Speer with a warm, glowing evangelism at the heart of which lies a great attachment and love for his Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. That warm communion with the Saviour has kept the fire of his missionary passion glowing and burning all these years with undiminished zeal. I think that we owe him a great debt for the clear way in which he has kept Jesus in the very forefront as the Saviour of the world, without Whom the world's salvation is not possible.

Then in addition no one across the years has been able to state better than he the great outstanding issues of Foreign Missions.

I am not going into any further details but shall just close by saying that my own opinion is that he stands almost without a peer in his own realm as a missionary secretary and as one who has kept the minds of the missionary world centred upon the Cross and upon the Saviour who died on that Cross.

Cordially yours,

H. E. Stillwell

China Inland Mission

237 West School Lane, Germantown
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Telephone
GERMANTOWN 9907

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REV. W. ALFRED SCHLICHTER
Treasurer

REV. ROBERT H. GLOVER, M. D., F. R. G. S.
Home Director for North America

Cable Address
INLAND, PHILADELPHIA

October 23, 1931.

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:

Mr. Andrews has handed to me your letter of October 12th, with reference to Dr. Robert E. Speer, desiring that I, rather than he, give it such attention as it calls for.

I hardly think that any expression on behalf of the China Inland Mission will be looked for, since the Mission's relation to the Foreign Missions Conference has been more or less a casual one.

May I simply take occasion to say personally that I have held Dr. Speer in very high esteem throughout his long and splendid career as a missionary statesman and administrator. With a multitude of others, I have admired his Christian character and unusual gifts, and have greatly benefited by his high example and invaluable writings. He has surely been one of God's choice gifts not only to his particular denomination and Mission Board but to the church at large and the missionary enterprise as a whole. I pray that his bow may still abide in strength for many days.

Believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

Robert Hall Glover

To Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

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2951 Tilden Street, Washington, D. C.

REV. F. A. GOETSCH, Associate Sec.
Evangelical Synod Building,
1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

St. Louis, Mo., October 16, 1931

Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew
1505 Race St.
Philadelphia, Penn.

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:

It is exceedingly kind of you to permit me to send you a brief word regarding my estimate of Dr. Robert Speer. While I do not know Dr. Speer very intimately, I have profited greatly by his splendid Christian leadership in the sphere of Foreign Missions.

I have been deeply impressed by Dr. Speer's splendid Christian personality. His sincerity has always been so unquestioned and has always carried conviction to those who have come in contact with him. Then too, his belief in the absolute uniqueness of Christ has seemed to me to exert a steadying influence whenever men appeared uncertain as to the message of Christianity. It was my privilege to attend the Student Volunteer Convention in the Christmas Holidays of 1919-1920 at Des Moines, Iowa, and I shall never forget the service rendered there by Dr. Speer. Whenever it seemed as if the meeting were getting out of hand, Dr. Speer was brought forward to give one of his deep and soul stirring messages, and he again and again brought back that great meeting to a consideration of the real fundamentals. This characteristic of Dr. Speer has impressed me perhaps most of all. I have also marveled at his splendid grasp of the missionary situation in all countries and am inclined in his case more than in that of anyone I know, to accept his view as the correct estimate in every case.

I do not know if the above is really helpful to you in understanding just how I feel about Dr. Speer. He is to me one of the missionary heroes of this present age.

With kindest regards, I am,

Fraternally yours,

F. A. Goetsch.

51

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA

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SECRETARY
ANDREW S. GRANT

TELEPHONE
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ROOMS 708-9

TORONTO 2,

October 17th, 1931.

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphïa, Pa., U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your's of October 13th regarding Dr. Speer, and in reply I beg leave to say that while I was not Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board of the Presbyterian Church during the greater part of Dr. Speer's ministry, yet we all knew him and loved him for his own and for his work's sake.

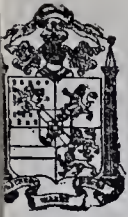
I have been talking with Dr. Armstrong who was Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board of the Presbyterian Church up to the time of the separation, and I understand that he is writing you along these lines, and he is much better acquainted with Dr. Speer than I am.

On behalf of the Board of Missions of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, I wish to convey through you to Dr. Speer our appreciation and best wishes in the work that still lies before him.

Yours sincerely,

A. S. Grant

ASG W



WOMAN'S BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
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MISS ANNA F. BACON
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25 EAST 22D STREET, NEW YORK CITY, October 26, 1931

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D. D.,
Schaff Building,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:

Thank you for honoring me with an opportunity to express appreciation of our friend Dr. Speer. I have not done exactly what you asked, for I did not know, but if the following does not impress you as too foolishly fanciful, it is yours to use as you will. If you think best, scrap it.

Glancing over the long list of writings from Dr. Speer's prolific pen, I have made this discovery: that of all his well-phrased titles the man himself is the epitome. What Robert E. Speer has been and is speaks even louder than what he says.

Some of us remember the ardent youth who, taking as his ideal "The Man Christ Jesus" early began to ask "A Young Man's Question" concerning "Christ and Life". In the young man was "The Stuff of Manhood", for he early recognized that "The Principles of Jesus" are "The Things That Make a Man". "Seeking the Mind of Christ", the young man heard "What Constitutes a Missionary Call" and became one of the humble "Servants of the King", approving himself to his Master as one of the "Men Who Were Found Faithful".

Like "The Man Paul" he has known "How to Speak Effectively Without Notes" and his pronouncements on "Some Living Issues" have repeatedly stirred us to lay hold of "The Unfinished Task of Foreign Missions" with new vision of "The New Opportunity of the Christian Church". He has challenged us to give unfaltering allegiance to "The Deity of Christ" and to make direct dynamic contact between "The Gospel and the New World". "Are Foreign Missions Done For?" Not while Dr. Speer is numbered among the "Great Leaders in the World Movement".

While we acknowledge his "Missionary Leadership" and rejoice in his power both in "Prayer and Missions" we recognize in him also the "Marks of a Man" and delight to present to him as a titled gentleman our testimony of appreciation and affectionate esteem in this "Memorial of a True Life".

Cordially yours,

Eliza P. Cobb

Corresponding Secretary.

The Board of Missions
of the
Methodist Protestant Church

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ASSISTANT RECORDIN
3406 ELGIN AVE., BA

October 14, 1931

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.
Room 310 Schaff Building
1505 Race Street
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:

Yours of the 13th instant came this morning. I note what you say about the Fortieth Anniversary of Dr. Robert Elliott Speer, the missionary secretary.

I take great pleasure in saying concerning Dr. Speer that he is a class all by himself. I regard him as the greatest missionary in America today. I believe he sees more clearly the missionary problem from all angles than any other man. The Presbyterian Church honors itself in continuing him as their Senior Secretary. I congratulate both him and the church on his long years of service, and for the great good he has accomplished.

I am very fond of Dr. Speer. I know him well. You may use these words any way you deem fit.

Very truly yours,

G. W. Haddaway

GWH/EMN

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October ---14--1931

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:-

It is with pleasure that I write this brief testimony concerning the services that Dr. Robert Elliott Speer has rendered to the cause of Foreign Missions, during and beyond this last generation.

His name has been vitally associated with all Foreign Mission Movements carried on by all of our American Boards, and foreign Boards as well. As an author of Mission Books, as an organizer of Mission Conferences, as an informed and stimulating speaker, as a traveller in Mission Lands, and advisor of missionaries on the field, Dr. Speer has been, and thank God, still is one of our foremost apostles of international good-will; and statesmen of the Kingdom of God.

Sincerely,
H. K. Heebner
.....Secretary.

Christian Reformed Board of Missions

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
REV. HENRY BEETS, L.L. D.
737 MADISON AVE., S.E.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. Oct. 21, 1931

Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew,
Room 310, Schaff Building,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:

In reply to your letter of October 12th, it affords me great pleasure to state, as to my estimate of our mutual friend, Dr. Robert Elliott Speer, as a friend of the Boards, and as a leader in the work of Foreign Missions, that I esteem him very highly as our missionary "Great Heart", a brave leader, loyal to Prince Immanuel, and to the great essentials of our christian religion.

I consider him a real missionary statesman, a man of vision, and I have often admired his marvelous ability in marshalling before his audience all kinds of facts and figures concerning the cause of missions, drawing wise conclusions, and firing his hearers with new ambition for the cause of Him whose trumpet never sounds retreat.

Yours respectfully,

Henry Beets

HB/s

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DR. JOHN W. WOOD

October 14, 1931

Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew
Room 310 Schaff Building
1505 Race Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

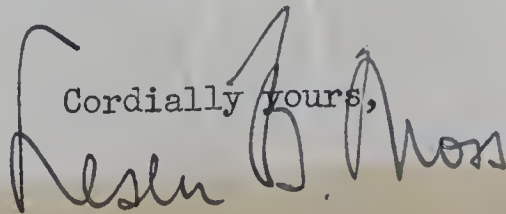
My dear Dr. Bartholomew:

I have your note of October 13 asking me to send you an estimate of Dr. Speer as a friend of the boards and as a leader in the work of foreign missions. Your own intimate knowledge and fellowship with him goes back much farther than mine and you will be able to supplement the many points at which my estimate would be only too fragmentary.

Since the first time I ever heard him speak in 1912 at Northfield, he has been not only an inspiration but a shining beacon. His grasp of the needs of the world and of the missionary opportunity seems to me little short of stupendous. My own conviction is that a large degree of the statesmanship exhibited in the last thirty or more years in the missionary enterprise has been due not only to the intellectual power but to the spiritual insight of Dr. Speer. It will remain for a far more facile pen than mine to draw out in any detail the tremendous contribution which he has made to the enterprise in which we are all so deeply involved. His assistance in many of the cooperative pieces of work has been invaluable. I know of no man who is more beloved and more deeply respected throughout the whole body of the Christian church in this country and throughout the missionary body scattered in the various countries of the world than is Dr. Speer.

I hope you will not undertake to quote this as from me but if you should feel the desirability of that, I can only add that I am sorry my words are so feeble in expressing my own respect and admiration for what he has meant for the Christian enterprise throughout the world.

Cordially yours,



Leslie B. Moss

59

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BUSINESS SECRETARY—NORTH AMERICAN SECTION

SAMUEL D. PRICE, D.D., NEW YORK CITY

HEADQUARTERS OFFICE

216 METROPOLITAN TOWER

NEW YORK CITY

October 15, 1931.

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.
Room 310, Schaff Bldg.,
1505 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:

It is certainly a pleasure to respond to your request for a brief statement regarding our mutual friend, Dr. Robert E. Speer, as he approaches the Fortieth Anniversary of his election to executive office in the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Dr. Speer is in a remarkable way the outstanding leader of North America in the work of Foreign Missions. His breadth of vision, his warmth of fellowship, his consecration of purpose are a constant source of inspiration to all who come in contact with him. Somehow we never think of him as a denominational executive. He truly belongs to us all.

And no one stresses more consistently and sincerely the supremacy of Jesus Christ in all this world task than does Dr. Speer. For that alone we are all deeply indebted to him. How we do need precisely that emphasis which he so genuinely gives!

Dr. Speer's contribution to the task of world evangelization has been of incalculable value to the entire Church of Christ.

Yours cordially,

RMH/F.

Robert M. Hopkins

The Board of Foreign Missions
of the
United Presbyterian Church of North America

Schaff Building, 1505 Race Street

Philadelphia, Pa.

Cable Address—Evangelium, Philadelphia

OFFICE OF
GENERAL SECRETARY

October 15, 1931.

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:

In complying with your request to write you an estimate of our mutual friend, Robert E. Speer, as a leader in the work of foreign missions, I find it exceedingly difficult not to transgress the limits of good taste in writing of a person by dealing in superlatives.

Being his contemporaries, and being closely associated with him in service, I think you and I are too near to Dr. Speer to get his measure in true perspective. I cannot help wondering if any other man in the modern missionary world has rendered so large a service to this cause. At least he is well in the van of its leaders.

While God has endowed him with unusual intellectual, spiritual, social and physical gifts, I think he is so great a missionary leader not so much because of these but because he is so great a Christian. Since the days when he was a leader of college students, his virile personality has been marked by grace and humility. His oral and written messages have so breathed fearless personal loyalty to Christ that Christian men have unquestioningly followed him.

While his leadership in all Christian circles has had the highest possible public recognition those of us who have been associated with him in counsel know that his greatest contributions to the cause of Christ have been made in the building of foundations that do not appear to the casual observer. His knowledge, insight, unerring judgment and powers of concentration have enabled him to give invaluable counsel in shaping policies of the Student Volunteer Movement, the Laymen's Missionary Movement, the Foreign Missions Conference of North America, the International Missionary Council, the Federation of Churches of Christ in America, and a large number of other organizations.

Under the guidance of Dr. Speer and his colleagues, the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church has continued to occupy a leading place among the world's Foreign Missionary Societies, both in the cultivation of the home Church and in the administration of the work in

the fields. After all, the score is kept here where the work is checked year by year, and decade by decade.

We cannot but hope that no weariness of the flesh and no personal preference on the part of Dr. Speer, or no rules and precedents on the part of his organization may militate to turn him aside from very many years more of active and official participation in the administration of the affairs of this cause to which he has rendered such incomparable service.

Of course you will understand that what I have written above is just my own personal, intimate estimate of Dr. Speer, and is even but a weak echo of that. I know that you will not be quoting this, but will only be molding my thoughts with your own into your greetings from the Boards on November 2nd. I am glad that you have been chosen to render this service, and know that Dr. Speer will appreciate your doing so.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours very sincerely,

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.
Schaff Building
Philadelphia, Pa.

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October 14, 1931

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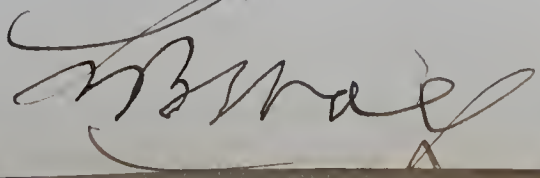
Dear Dr. Bartholomew:-

I deem it no small privilege to say a word about the services to the Foreign Missions Cause of Dr. Robert Elliott Speer, now senior Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions in the United States. My associations with him have been since I have been acting secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Lutheran Church in 1900. My relations with him have always been most cordial. The views he holds on the Foreign Mission Movement as well as the general religious conception underlying this movement, have always met with my entire approval and support.

As a wise counsellor and influential member of committees and boards and general conferences, he has made for himself a very leading place among those to whom the Church has entrusted the Cause of world evangelization. His bearing on every question as well as his sympathetic attitude in every difficult situation have endeared him to all his associates in the general work of foreign missions. His views on subjects have been backed by numerous visitations to the various fields in the great mission movement. As a lay preacher and scholarly interpreter of the Word of God, he ranks very high among those to whom is given to interpret the scriptures. Highly endowed mentally and of a highly spiritual nature, he has by his constant reading made himself master in all questions pertaining to religion, and chiefly to Christianity.

As a public advocate on our American Foreign Mission platform at meetings when the question of Foreign Missions is under discussion, he never fails to impress those who hear him with his clear apprehension of the matters in hand, and his tremendous earnestness in his advocacy of that which he discusses. Forty years, most of which I have in some way been in touch with him has shown him to be one of the real outstanding leaders of our world-wide enterprise. His Christianity stood the test of the great World War and here as elsewhere he did not fail.

Yours sincerely,



LBW/S

63

The Women's General Missionary Society
of the
United Presbyterian Church of North America

FOREIGN SECRETARY
MRS. H. C. CAMPBELL
40 S. HILAND AVE. EAST LIBERTY STA.

Columbia Hospital,
Wilkinsburg, Pa.

~~PITTSBURGH, PA~~ October 15, 1931.

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.,
Room 310 Schaff Building,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia, Penna.

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:

It gives me great pleasure to add a word of congratulation and greeting to our dearly beloved friend and co-worker - Dr. Robert E. Speer, Senior Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church.

Just to think of his having been forty years in that very responsible position! Just think of the unnumbered host of missionaries he has been responsible for sending out to the various fields of that great Church! Just think of the unnumbered thousands of souls that have been led to accept Jesus Christ as Saviour through the work of these missionaries, accompanied by the prayers of Dr. Speer! Just think of the influence his numerous trips abroad to foreign lands have given him because all who meet him and hear him speak are impressed with his sincerity and his consecrated devotion!

Praying that the Master Whom he loves and serves so well may continue him for forty years more as a Secretary and at the last give him an abundant entrance into that Home which Jesus has prepared for those who love Him, I am

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. H. C. Campbell.

C/T.

PERSONALLY DICTATED, BUT SIGNED IN THE
WRITERS ABSENCE TO EXPEDITE DELIVERY.

AMERICAN BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY

152 MADISON AVENUE

NEW YORK

TELEPHONE: BOGARDUS 4-4100

October 28, 1931

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Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.,
1505 Race Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:-

On account of my absence from the city almost constantly the last few weeks I have been slow in making reply to your letter of October 12th in which you request that I send you my estimate of our friend, Dr. Speer. It is impossible for me to put my estimate of him into words, but I have made an attempt to do so and you will find it enclosed herewith. If any phrase that I ~~may~~ have dictated would be of value you are free to use it.

Cordially yours


Foreign Secretary

JHF EK
Encl-

ROBERT E. SPEER

Who can measure the value of such a personality as Robert E. Speer? His influence is beyond all estimate. Few voices in the history of the Christian Church have made such an effective appeal as his for the prompt evangelization of the world. The clarity of his faith and his passion have inspired multitudes and have helped thousands to consecrate their lives to highest objectives. A rare mental apprehension and a deep spiritual discernment are blended in him as in few men of our day. While he is a notably able administrator, his spiritual qualities have never been blurred by his attention to burdensome practical questions. Among us he has been a "censer bearer of the Lord" and throughout the earth the aroma of his soul is sweetening the lives of those who know him. Best of all, the Eternal Christ has obviously been in control of him and has manifested Himself in the life of Robert E. Speer.

All denominations join the Presbyterians in gratitude for his many years of service, since all of us claim him and he belongs to Christendom. They join also in the hope that the years that lie ahead may prove to be the most fruitful of all for our beloved comrade,

James H. Franklin, Foreign Secretary

American Baptist Foreign
Mission Society



·FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH·
·FIFTH AVENUE AND CHURCH STREET·
·NASHVILLE TENN·

Oct. 27, 1931.

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew,
1505 Race St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.,

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:

Writing as Chairman of the Executive Committee of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S., I beg to express through you our high appreciation of the services of Dr. Robert E. Speer, and to join with his many friends in felicitating him on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of his election as Senior Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.

Dr. Speer's influence as a missionary leader is world-wide. He is regarded not only by his own church and denomination, but by the churches of Christendom, as our foremost missionary seer and statesman. His life has been invaluable to the missionary enterprise, and long after he has gone to his reward, his name will cast a spell over the hosts who press on to crown Christ King.

Faithfully yours,

Amos J. Banck

Chairman of the Executive Committee of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States.

The Board of Foreign Missions
 OF THE SYNOD OF THE
 Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America
 Philadelphia, Pa.

CABLE ADDRESS "COVBOARD, PHILADELPHIA"

M. WILSON, D. D., CORRESPONDING SECRETARY WALTER MCCARROLL, D. D., TRANSPORTATION AGENT JOSEPH M. STEELE, TR
 2410 NORTH MARSHALL STREET 1438 SHAKESPEARE AVE., NEW YORK 124 NORTH FIFTEENTH S

October 20, 1931

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:

In reply to your letter of the 13th addressed to Dr. Wilson:-

Dr. Wilson was appointed a member of a deputation to visit our mission fields in the Levant. He and Mrs. Wilson are at present in Cyprus; they are not expected home until the first of December. I am sorry, therefore, that he will not be able to comply with your request which he would be glad to do, as I know he has a very high regard for Dr. Speer.

Sincerely yours,

Margaret D. Gill
 Secretary to Dr. Wilson

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES
COMMITTEE ON THE ASSEMBLY'S WORK



“LE LIBERATE”

BERT W. SMITH
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DARBY FULTON
SECOND CANDIDATE SECRETARY
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
— OF —
FOREIGN MISSIONS

POST OFFICE BOX 330
NASHVILLE, TENN.

October 21, 1931



113 SIXTEEN

Rev. Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew,
Room 310, Schaff Building,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:-

Your letter of October 13 to Dr. Egbert W. Smith asking for his estimate of Dr. Speer as a friend of the Boards and as a leader in the work of Foreign Missions has come to hand in Dr. Smith's absence on a visit to our Congo Mission. Returning from a brief trip to North Carolina I find that your letter has been placed on my desk for reply.

I regret very much indeed that Dr. Smith is not here to make answer for himself. I know what satisfaction it would have given him to express his high regard for Dr. Speer.

In Dr. Smith's absence I am trying to carry on temporarily the work that he has so ably conducted for the past twenty years. I feel very keenly my insufficiency for the task. However, if there be one respect in which I can vie creditably with Dr. Smith, it is in my admiration for Dr. Speer. The whole missionary world is to be congratulated on having had the leadership of such a man for forty years. That leadership has always been progressive and enthusiastic and yet always tempered by a poise and a sanity that encouraged confidence and faith. I know of no person whose leadership in things missionary has been so gratefully accepted and so confidently followed by the people of our Church as has Dr. Speer's. His books have been widely read, his addresses have been heard by thousands, his policies have helped shape those of many Boards, and his strong personal championship of the missionary enterprise in difficult times has worked the discomfiture of the enemies of missions and strengthened the morale of its friends. It is indeed a pleasure to pay even this unworthy tribute to one who has rendered such service to our common cause.

The Executive Committee of Foreign Missions congratulates Dr. Speer and the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America on these forty years of service to the Kingdom and prays that the richest blessings of Heaven may continue to attend him and the Board in all their mutual endeavors in the gospel.

With very best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

C. Shirley Fulton
Acting Executive Secretary.

Address: Friendo, Philadelphia

Telephone: Market 2025

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of

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4901 Stenton Avenue
Germantown, Phila.

October 30th, 1931

Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew,
1506 Race St.,
Philadelphia .

My dear Dr. Bartholomew:

It is very kind of you to ask for my appreciation of Dr. Speer in connection with the fortieth anniversary celebration. I find myself, however, somewhat at a loss what to say, as I have never had any personal connections with Dr. Speer although I have the highest regard for him. Speaking merely as one who has seen him on public occasions, I should say that his outstanding qualities were his ability to combine strong convictions with a genial sympathy with fellow-workers of widely varying opinions. His delightful sense of humor helps him in this. I believe he has also a great power to discern the essentials of any problem and state them clearly.

I am sorry I cannot give you more.

Sincerely yours,

Margaret W. Rhoads
Secretary

MISSIONARY EDUCATION MOVEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

150 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK CITY



THE FRIENDSHIP PRESS

October 30, 1931

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CABLE ADDRESS: MOVEMENT, NEW YORK

Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D.D.
1505 Race Street, Philadelphia.

Dear Dr. Bartholomew:

I am deeply chagrined to find that in the press of a number of very urgent matters in the past weeks I have overlooked your letter of October 13 in regard to Dr. Speer. Please accept my apologies. It is probably too late for me to be of any service to you, but I appreciate so much what you are doing on behalf of all the mission boards in this fine recognition of Dr. Speer that I want to send a few words anyway.

Since the Movement is an interdenominational agency we have not come in touch with Dr. Speer in quite the same way that the boards of missions have done, but here, of course, as in all the organizations having any kind of touch with the missionary enterprise the influence of Dr. Speer's rare spiritual life, his profound knowledge of the modern world, and his missionary statesmanship have had a deep influence on all of us. No one can meet him without feeling that there radiates from him a glow of spirit that can come only out of a life completely and utterly devoted to Christ and the things of the Kingdom. That radiance of his which is compounded so marvelously of spiritual insight, humor, intellectual strength and magnificent physical bearing has touched to better things every young person who has met him in formative years and has made cooperation and fellowship with him the joy of his more mature colleagues.

It is at the point of his contribution to the literature of missions that we have come closest to him in this Movement. His books have had an enormous influence on the thought of a whole generation of Christian people. The rich background of the author is apparent to every reader, but only those who have had some opportunity to know what was involved in the preparation of the manuscript can fully appreciate the intellectual power that has gone into the composition of each book. The enormous range of his reading in preparation for the writing is the despair of those who work with him. Abstruse scientific treatises, ponderous reports, huge volumes of letters and journals, history, poetry, biography, fiction, criticism, curious lore that only he apparently has ever found on the dustiest of library shelves and has discovered to

hold a choice paragraph bearing on the subject in hand - the pages of all these turn with equal ease under his nervous fingers and quick-comprehending eye as he fills his mind before approaching his task. For one of his books of recent years he read ~~three~~^{two} hundred volumes or more - many of them in a particularly difficult field of science - and then gave his readers in brief space the fine distillation of the results of the study and research of the world's most dependable scholars in that branch of learning. What has it not meant to the interpretation of the Christian movement that from the printed page and from the platform we have had one in this generation who can so commend the enterprise at once to the most gifted intellects and to the mystics!

How eagerly he has always sought to help others, especially the young people just entering Christian service, to come into touch with the spirits of all times whose books have eternal messages! I shall never forget how he sent me off to India. I had just been graduated from college the previous day and was sailing at once. I reached New York very early in the morning and when I arrived at the Board offices found no one there but the cleaning women and Dr. Speer. I had never met him before. He was probably as much impressed by my inexperienced youth as I was by his overwhelming knowledge and, let me add, by his gentle courtesy and helpfulness. He immediately asked about my reading for the voyage. I assured him I had a steamer trunk rather heavily filled with books, but he was apparently not convinced that the supply was adequate, for on my return to his office an hour later he had a great pile of books laid out for me to add to my already heavy burden. And right gladly did I take them. From among them I treasure to this day a copy, bearing his own signature, of Cromwell's Letters, a huge tome in fine print that alone would keep any one but him busy all the way around the world, but which he had probably mastered on a morning's trip into New York from Englewood.

I am sure that today every colleague of his even in the humblest capacity thanks God for his wonderfully helpful life and prays that he may have many more years in the service of the Master to whom he has witnessed so fruitfully.

Yours sincerely,

Franklin D. Cogswell

R. E. Speer & E. Roman

JAN 20 1932 Swedish Evangelical Mission Church

V. E. ROMAN, MINISTER

DUBOIS STREET AND QUARRY AVENUE

~~Ans.~~ *ack 1/20* DuBois, Pennsylvania

PASTOR'S RESIDENCE
8 QUARRY AVENUE

130

Jan. 17th

Rev. Robert E. Speer, DD, LLD,
New York City
Dear Doctor Speer,

In a recent paper I noted your fortieth anniversary of Christian service under the Presbyterian Board. Hearty congratulations!

Your books have been of great help to me. "Some Living Issues" lay before me on my desk. It is one of the best books in my library.

I shall never forget the powerful message you delivered in Orchestra Hall, Chicago in 1925 about "Can Christ really help men"? It gripped my heart. Another address I heard by you in the Central Congregational Church, Boston under the auspices of the Student Volunteer Movement. That was during my student days at Gordon College.

A year or two ago you gave an address in the First Presbyterian Church of Boston on the subject, "Evangelism and Education" for the benefit of the students and friends of Gordon College. I wish I could have heard this message. If it is in print in pamphlet form I shall secure a copy of it.

With best wishes to you in your continued service for Christ and the Church.

Fraternally yours,

V. E. Roman

75

Edward C. Kunkle

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New York C

ED C. KUNKLE
Promotion Director

BOGARDUS 4100
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November 6, 1931

Rev. R. Speer

NOV 7 1931

Rev. Robert E. Speer, D.D.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. Speer:

I take great pleasure in extending my sincere congratulations upon the long and memorable service which you have had with the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions. Let me say that through all these years I have noted with great interest and appreciation the ever growing influence of your leadership in the cause of foreign missions and an ever widening circle of friends and admirers. You have been to me a great inspiration and I wish to thank you for what you have meant during the past forty years to our Baptist fellowship.

Accept my very best wishes for many more years of happy service.

I am, with sincere esteem

Yours in cordial service,

Edward C. Kunkle

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown below.

Received at Flatiron Bldg., New York City

NBH492 22=CHICAGO ILL 2 326P

DR ROBERT E SPEER=
156 5 AVE=

1931 NOV 9 PM 4 45
MINUTES IN TRANSIT
FULL-RATE DAY LETTER

GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS YOURS HAVE NOT BEEN FORTY YEARS IN THE WILDNERNESS BUT CONTRARY TO SCRIPTURE THE PROMISED LAND AT THE BEGINNING=

JOHN TIMOTHY STONE.

Presbyterian Homes
for
Children of Foreign Missionaries

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MRS. WM. R. WESTHAFFER
1149 Beall Avenue
Wooster, Ohio

Purchaser
MRS. PLATTE T. AMSTUTZ
561 E. Bowman St.
Wooster, Ohio

MB

Wooster O

930 N. Bever St.

Nov. 12th 1931.

Mr. Robert E. Speer

156 Fifth Ave.,

New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Speer: -

At the annual meeting of our Board, November fifth, the motion was carried to send to you our hearty congratulations on the fortieth anniversary of your service to the Board of Foreign Missions. It gives us much pleasure to send this greeting.

Very sincerely yours,

Elizabeth W. Vance (Cor. Sec)

Cornelius H Patton

77

R. E. Speer

888 ASYLUM AVENUE
HARTFORD
CONN.

S

JAN 25 1932

Ans. _____

Jan. 23rd, 1932.

Dear Dr. Speer,

I have read your tribute to Mr. Moody with deep interest. It is enlightening and moving at the same time; it starts all sorts of tender feelings, and grateful memories. One of your qualities which I fear none of your friends thought to mention when we were attempting to characterize you the other day, in connection with your secretarial anniversary, is appreciation, a great thing to have in these ultra analytical and critical days. I am thankful to have a little of it myself - it is a gift rather than an achievement - and I find it easier to appreciate than to criticize. I never met Mr. Moody, but I listened to him when a boy in Chicago, and was strangely stirred. Again at Yale, I witnessed that remarkable scene in Battell Chapel, when he overcame first the opposition than the reluctance the students, and ended by bringing scores of them to the front as enquirers. I attempted to describe that scene in the chapter on Religion in the Colleges in my book "Eight O'clock Chapel", written in collaboration with Mr. Walter Field.

So many thanks for the tribure. As ever,

Cornelius H Patton

NBH52 53 DL=FRANKLIN PENN 2 945A

DOCTOR ROBERT E SPEER=

156 FIFTH AVE=

1931 NOV 12 AM 10 14

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY-LETTER
	14

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FRANKLIN PA FEELS THE BLESSING OF YOUR FORTY YEARS OF SERVICE IN BEHALF OF FOREIGN MISSIONS IT THANKS GOD FOR HIS LEADERSHIP THROUGH YOU AND PRAYS FOR ITS CONTINUANCE READ BY THE PASTOR AND AUTHORIZED BY VOTE OF THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1ST 1931=

BENJAMIN BUNN ROYER PASTOR.

131

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REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA

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CHAIRMAN

F. M. POTTER, L. H. D.
TREAS

December
Twenty-eighth,
1931.

Dear Dr. Speer:

The Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in America would extend to you its heart-felt congratulations on the Fortieth Anniversary of your connection with the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

This event is of unusual interest to our Board, not only because of the intimate relation which exists between your Board and our own and between our missionaries and yours in every field where they are working in cooperation, but because of the many evidences you have given of your personal sympathy in friendly counsel and encouragement. You have made yourself acquainted with our problems as thoroughly as with your own, and many are the occasions when we have gone to you for advice and found enlightenment and courage.

In a peculiar measure you seem to belong to us. We share with your own Board the sense of gratitude to God for your many years of notable service, and we pray that there may be many years to come in which you will continue to be an inspiration to all workers for God in this and every land.

Yours very sincerely,

Henry E. Cobb

President.

T. H. Mackenzie

Chairman, Exec. Comm.

F. M. Potter

Wm. J. Van Kersen
Secretaries.

Donald W Carruthers

[Handwritten initials]

I. E. Speer

FEB 18 1932

Donald W. Carruthers
Presbyterian Pastor to Students
At

Ans. _____

The Pennsylvania State College
State College, Pennsylvania

130 Ridge Avenue

February 16, 1932

Dr. Robert E. Speer, Secretary,
The Board of Foreign Missions,
The Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Dr. Speer:

At the time of your anniversary in the
autumn I intended writing you expressing how much your
consistent contribution year after year has meant in the
advance of the Kingdom.

You were of tremendous help in your
message at the Buffalo Student Volunteer Conference. I,
for one, am deeply grateful for your message.

With kindest good wishes,

Very sincerely,

Donald W. Carruthers

DWC-SM

W. M. Danner

CABLE ADDRESS: LEPERS, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE: CHI

THE AMERICAN MISSION TO LEPERS

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THE MISSION TO LEPERS (LONDON)
FOUNDED IN 1874

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GENERAL SECRETARY

W. M. Danner

October 19, 1931.

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Dr. Robert Elliott Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Speer:

Someone has been good enough to send me a printed invitation to join with you and your other friends in a notable celebration set for November 2nd, commemorating the 40th Anniversary of your election to your present position.

It would certainly please me very much if I could be with you, but unfortunately I am engaged for a Leper Mission meeting for that day at Youngstown, Ohio.

Anyway, I beg to be listed as one of your many friends and I recall with great pleasure the visit you made to Iowa when I was State Secretary there more than 40 years ago, and I remember receiving notice in advance of the Student Volunteer Committee's work to be careful not to give you too much hard work. How little the people then knew of your capacity for work, as well as getting other people to work.

With my very warmest regards, I am

Yours very sincerely,

W. M. Danner
General Secretary.

S. L. JOSHI
PROFESSOR IN CHARGE

OCT 14 1931

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

HANOVER, N. H.

October 12, 1931.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
Board of Foreign Missions,
Presbyterian Building,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Speer:

I learned from the New York Times that you had just completed forty years of work as secretary of the Foreign Missions Board of the Presbyterian Church. You will doubtless receive on this occasion hearty congratulations from your many friends all over the world and I should like to be one of those who have sincerely valued the influence which you have exerted during this period for the spread of the Kingdom of God in the world. These forty years have seen great changes in the affairs of the world and the development of modern science has profoundly modified our outlook on life. We have arrived at a new era in the relations of Missionary Boards in America and Great Britain with the historic lands and religions of Asia. It would be interesting to have from your pen a resume of your experiences and of your own point of view in regard to the adjustments that must be made in the presentation of the message of Christianity to the new China and the new India which have come into existence largely as the result of the impact of Western civilization on those lands.

During my recent visit to England I had the pleasure of listening to an illuminating lecture given by Lord Irwin to representatives of the various British Missionary Societies. I also had the opportunity of discussing with some of the delegates from India who had arrived in London to attend the Round Table Conference, some of the problems connected with Christian Missions in relation to Indian Nationalism. Mahatma Gandhi has made a great hit with the British people in general and we are hoping that when some of the crucial problems connected with the Indian situation are finally solved, Christianity in India will enter a new era of constructive achievement for the future.

Some day, when I am in New York again, I shall make an effort to call at your office in order to discuss questions of mutual interest. Begging to be remembered to Mrs. Speer and with warm personal regards, I remain

J:F

Yours very sincerely,

S. L. Joshi

W. C. TEMPLETON, PASTOR

W. F. RHINEHART, TREASURER

JAMES SUTTON, CLERK OF SESSION

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dodge City, Kansas

October 19th., 1931

Rev. Robert E. Speer, D.D.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My Dear Dr. Speer:

I learned from Dr. McAfee last week that you are, today, rounding out forty years as secretary of the Foreign Missions Board. Allow me to congratulate you on forty years of magnificent service.

I know you slightly when you were in Princeton, I was in the Seminary and it has been a pleasure to me to read your books and note the marvelous growth of Foreign Missions during these forty years under your direction.

May God continue to bless and sustain you for many years to come in the great work which you are doing. I am not flattering you at all when I say you are the best loved and most honored man in the Presbyterian Church.

With all good wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

W. C. Templeton

WCT:eg

John Quincy Adams

4 WILLIAM STREET
GENEVA, N. Y.

83
t. g.

October 24th, 1931.

My dear Dr. Speer;

Permit me to join with the many thousands who know you personally and admire greatly your character and work in most hearty congratulations on the completion of forty years as Secretary of our Foreign Board. It was very soon after you were elected that I heard you for the first time, and as this pleasure has been repeated often through the years I have rejoiced in your intellectual and spiritual growth--perhaps I may be pardoned for saying in the sanity of it. Through your manifold activities you have been a tremendous force for righteousness the world over, and it will be a source of unending joy to you and Mrs. Speer as you look toward the setting sun to review these years and thank God for what He has enabled you to do.

It is a very special pleasure to write this because of a little incident that shortly preceded your election. Probably there are not more than one or two now living that knew of it, and doubtless they have long since forgotten it. I was then a pastor in San Francisco. Dr. Ellinwood had known me almost from a boy and Dr. Gillespie was an intimate friend. In some way, I do not remember how, I learned that I was being considered for the Secretaryship. After some time Dr. Gillespie told me that my name was dropped because of the state of my health. It was a good reason then, but now at 82 it rather amuses me. But in all sincerity I can say that it would have been a calamity if I had been chosen and you passed by because you were a layman. Your achievements have towered above anything I could possibly have attained.

Pardon this personal reminiscence, it requires no answer. My earnest congratulations then to you and Mrs. Speer on your long and wonderful connection with the Board. May you long be spared to each ^{other} and to your friends!

Fraternally yours,

John Quincy Adams.

Robert B. Beattie

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
(MUNN AVENUE)
EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY

~~OFF~~

ROBERT BREWSTER BEATTIE, MINISTER

C. MELVILLE WRIGHT, ASSOCIATE MINISTER

October 27, 1931.

Dear Bob,

Just a personal word of heartiest congratulations on the approach of the fortieth anniversary of your being with our Board of Foreign Missions. It isn't necessary for me to give expression to my own feeling for you. You know where I stand on that question but I do feel that I cannot let this time go by without telling you something of the debt of gratitude the Church owes you for the gift of yourself to the great work of world wide evangelization.

I wish I might enclose a check for a hundred thousand dollars for the work of the Board and add a little to it so that you might blow yourself with ice cream soda. I am both badly bent and broke and know that I have lots of company. If you think of any little thing that I can do to make your work easier, give me that privilege. May God bless you and keep you and grant you all needed strength, as He has, in the years that are gone, for the difficult days ahead. I count it a joy to walk with you in the way of Christ.

Faithfully yours,

Bob

The Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

SYNOD OF INDIANA

721 Peoples Bank Building

Telephone Riley 4531

Indianapolis

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, H. B. HOSTETTER, D.D.

October 26, 1931.

Rev. Robert E. Speer, D.D.,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Speer:

Just this brief line to congratulate you on the completion of forty years in the service of the Board of Foreign Missions. Greatly have we rejoiced in your leadership. I have said for many years and still say that I would rather hear you speak than any other man to whom I have ever listened. You have been of more help to me and I doubt not to hundreds of thousands of others, than you can ever know.

With a fervent prayer for your continued health and usefulness, I remain, with highest esteem,

Fraternally yours,

H. B. Hostetter

HBH:C

DX PHILADELPHIA PENN 135P NOV 2 1931

DR ROBERT E SPEER

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS 156 FIFTH AVE

MY FAMILY AND I DEEPLY REGRET WE ARE NOT IN NEWYORK TO CONGRATULATE YOU PERSONALLY ON THE COMPLETION OF YOUR FORTY YEARS SERVICE WITH THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS WE HOPE YOU BE SPARED FOR MANY MORE YEARS OF THE ACTIVE EFFICIENT WORK WHICH HAS CHARACTERIZED YOUR CAREER

HAROLD PEIRCE.

FEB 11 1932

AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

INCORPORATED 1812

14 BEACON STREET · BOSTON, MASS.

Editorial and Publicity Department

TEL. HAYMARKET 0471

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EDITORIAL ASSISTANT MISS KNAPP
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NEWS BUREAU

FOR NEWSPAPERS MISS CUSHING
FOR CHURCHES MISS SMILEY

YEAR BOOK AND ANNUAL REPORT

EDITOR MISS KNAPP

February 9, 1932

Rev. Robert E. Speer, D.D.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Robert-Sama:

It was mighty good of you to remember me with a copy of your address on Dwight L. Moody. I got it nearly a month ago and went through it, of course, at once in great eagerness and with most inspiring memories.

I can see you and Moody now, back in those days at Northfield when you were giving that message on "Remember Jesus Christ." We had a big Yale delegation, with a pitcher hanging over us, though what connection that had with your address I don't recall. I remember, however, how Moody fell to his knees with tears streaming down his face and asked you to pray for him as for the rest of us.

I remember, too, how he had those two glass pitchers on the pulpit, one representing the spirit and the other the heart of man. I remember how black that heart pitcher got when he trickled in a little of the spirit water on the first day. On the tenth day each pitcher was as pure as the other.

There are a thousand and one things I remember about Dwight L. Moody, and somehow I always associate you with him. You both have been a great inspiration to me, and I guess that one reason for it all is that down deep in my heart I am thoroughly evangelistic -- these critics of mine to the contrary. To me there is no other Name under heaven whereby men can be saved. Mr. Moody stood for this without equivocation, and he expressed the love of it all in word and action. You have always done the same.

Really, I appreciate this pamphlet on Moody written by Robert E. Speer more than I can tell you. I shall keep it by me for the rest of my life.

Most gratefully yours,



Enoch F. Bell

87

Frederick E Taylor

First Baptist Church

Meridian and Vermont Streets

Missionaries
MISS ESTELLE HARDING
65 The Blücherne
MISS MARY E. PHILLIPS
Rangoon, Burma
REV. and MRS. R.T. CAPEN
Swatow, China

Church Clerk
FLOYD O. BAKER
417 North Oakland Avenue

Church Treasurer
C. S. MERRICK
North Meridian and Vermont Sts.

Minister's Secretary
MISS ROSE ROUSH
North Meridian and Vermont Sts.

REV. FREDERICK E. TAYLOR, D.D., Minister
1935 North Meridian Street

REV. OSCAR R. MCKAY, D.D., Associate Minister
55 North Arlington Avenue

Indianapolis

October 26, 1931

SEP 29 1931

Ans.

Rev Robert E Speer, D D
Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions,
Presbyterian Building,
Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr Speer:

Pressure of work has prevented my sending any notes of thanks to the people who so graciously wrote letters of congratulation on the occasion of my 25th Anniversary here. May I assure you that I appreciated far beyond my ability to put into words the time that you took out of your vacation period to send me that very gracious letter.

My, it carried me back across the years to the Northfield Student Conferences when you were teaching the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts, to a large number of young fellows like myself who received instruction that remains to this day. The memory of those delightful days is still exceedingly fragrant. One of the greatest privileges of my ministerial life is that of keeping somewhat in contact with the leaders of those days and from time to time I have had the opportunity of renewing the acquaintance of a good many.

I do not think I can ever be too grateful for the influence on my life of those days of long ago. And may I add, that I mean it in all sincerity when I say that from those early days down to the present time the influence of your life and writings has been a very potent and powerful factor in my ministerial life.

With constant appreciation, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Frederick E. Taylor

FET:BP

By action of the Presbytery of Jersey
City, in Stated Meeting in the West Side
Presbyterian Church of Ridgewood, New Jersey,
on October 6th., 1931--

Be it resolved that:

The Presbytery of
Jersey City gladly embraces this opportunity to
extend to Dr. Robert E. Speer, ordained elder of
this Presbytery, its heartiest congratulations
upon this fortieth anniversary of his official
connection with the Board of Foreign Missions of
the Presbyterian Church. We are deeply cognizant
of his wise leadership and his penetrating insight
in the problems of this work, and bear sincere
testimony to our keen appreciation of his
outstanding services to this cause. We wish
him God's blessing in his continuing endeavors
to bear to all lands the Gospel of our Saviour,
Jesus Christ.

Delivered this second day of November, 1931,
at the request of the Presbytery--

G. Malcolm Van Dyke

Chairman, Committee of Foreign Missions

Presbytery of Jersey City

*Miss. H. Smith allowed.
sending her regrets, and
very good wishes. At the
last moment something
prevented my being there.*

E. MORRIS FERGUSSON
BOX 153
SWARTHMORE, PENNA.

November 2, 1931.

My dear Dr. Speer:

I well recall with what enthusiasm, tempered with a sense of adventure, the Presbyterian Church, forty years ago, placed you among the duly seasoned veterans of the Board as a representative of its young people. You have well repaid their confidence; and you have kept your post, with a heart of youth for the new visions that God is yearly giving us to see and follow.

Hearty congratulations from the devoted missionary worker by my side, and from myself.

Yours sincerely,

E. Morris Fergusson.

THE CLIFTON SPRINGS SANITARIUM
CLIFTON SPRINGS
NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN:

REV. JABEZ B. HORTON, CHAPLAIN

October 31, 1931

The Rev. Robert E. Speer, D.D.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. Speer:

I notice by the papers that you are approaching what cannot but be a most significant and joyful event, both to you and your innumerable hosts of friends and fellow-workers. I refer, of course, to the 40th anniversary of your labors as Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, which I understand occurs November 2nd of this year. May I venture to join in the flood of congratulations which will pour in upon you on this very auspicious occasion? Though not a member of your particular Communion, denominationally speaking, I feel that you belong so completely to the Church at large, that it is the privilege of "All who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity" to mingle their thanks to God for the superb and sustained leadership you have been able to render to the Church Universal for so many years and in such a variety of ways. Please accept this heart-felt tribute from one who has received great inspiration for his own service, both from your spoken and written messages. Your "Missionary Principles and Practice" is still a cherished member among my family of books!

Praying that God will richly deepen to you the consciousness of His Presence, and spare you for many years to the service of His Kingdom here on earth, I remain

Most cordially yours,

Jabez B. Horton,

WILLIAM UHLER FOLLANSBEE
WOODLAND ROAD
PITTSBURGH

October 29th 1931

Dear Robert

What a "youngster"
you are to now be celebrating
your fortieth anniversary
when I have just recently
passed the fifty third on my
"job", which simply shows how
many good years you have
ahead of you.

What a blessing you
have been to all the world -
to us home folks as well as
those abroad - all of us better
because of your works and our
companionship with you.

My wife and I were
recently greatly pleased to have
our son George (Shorty) in
advising he is on the Princeton

Charles G Sewall

The Bluff, Tioga Center, N. Y.
October 27.

My dear Dr. Speer:-

I have the announcement of the meeting which is to be held on November 2 in recognition of your fortieth anniversary. I wish that I could be present on that occasion, to speak my hearty congratulations with my own voice and the pressure of my own hand. But I trust that you will accept this note, and understand my regret. Few men can look back on forty years of such continuous and fruitful service.

Mrs. Sewall and I are here on account of our son's illness, which has kept him in a neighboring hospital for more than three months, but we are hoping soon to be able to take him and his wife to a warmer climate where he can recuperate.

With greetings to you and to the other friends who will assemble on November 2, I am

Faithfully yours,

Charles G Sewall

leadership has meant to the Presbyterian
 Church, and to the Christian Church at large,
 both here and abroad. All this was said and
 much more, and well said I am on December
 second but I must for myself to tell you of the
 inspiration that I have had from your words
 and from your service - unparalled in every
 way. I shall always have one regret - that I
 never had the opportunity to work continually
 and more closely under your leadership.

That the coming year may strengthen you
 I am I pray.

Very cordially yours,
 (Mrs. Fred S.) A. Katherine Bennett

Nov 2nd 1931

Dear Mr. Spear:

Anything I would say
seems so futile, decided to send
the enclosed: feeling it could have
been written just around you.

Every word so fitting.

most sincerely

H. Edw. Spidell

God give us men. A time like this demands
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith and ready hands!
Men whom the lust of office does not kill,
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy,
Men who possess opinions and a will,
Men who love honor, men who cannot lie.

From "Wanted" by G.G. Holland
(to be found in his volume of Works)

Hugh H Walker

R. E. Speer

2642 VAN BUREN PLACE
LOS ANGELES

JAN 25 1932

January 19, 1931.

Ans. ~~My dear Robert:~~

Of all the letters I have ever received from you or any other friends, the letter you wrote me concerning the action of my people in asking me to continue as their pastor, in spite of my three score years and ten, will ever hold a fine place in my heart. As long as I live, I will treasure it. I feel so unworthy of your friendship - and that among your tens of thousands of friends in all parts of the world and in the midst of all your heavy responsibilities - you should single me out and take the

Mrs H. W. Peabody

E. Speer

29 1931

B

1258 Spring Lake Drive,
Orlando, Florida.
October 26, 1931.

Robert E. Speer, LL.D.,
156 - Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Dr. Speer,

We are holding our meeting of the State Committee in St. Petersburg this week, and I am writing on behalf of the Committee to give you a little fuller information regarding their hope that you will come for the week, January 21 to 26, inclusive.

In general, the schedule would be: January 21, Thursday noon, Palm Beach; Thursday night, Miami. January 22, Friday afternoon, DeLand; Friday evening, Orlando. January 24, Sunday afternoon, Tampa and St. Petersburg. They are only an hour apart. Then, in the evening, Clearwater. January 25, morning, St. Petersburg; evening, or Tuesday morning, Jacksonville. You could then leave Jacksonville Tuesday evening.

Is this schedule satisfactory? If not, will you write and tell me just what you might do, and whether we may hope for you? We ought to begin at once to make our tentative program public.

I think you would find it well worth your while to come. It is not at all a case of working in Florida,- but the whole United States, since we have had registrations from from 42 to 46 States in the past, and certainly expect as many this year. People will be deeply interested to hear you, and we know you can bring one of your great spiritual messages which will strengthen the cause of foreign missions among these people who come from very nearly every State. Some of them are able to do great things if they can be really touched with the great message.

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I am hoping I may hear from you very soon, and praying that the Lord will send you to us, for we certainly need your message. You would not be in all the conferences, of course, which extend over three weeks; but you would reach all of the main centers. We want a call to spiritual life which will certainly find its expression in carrying the message of Christ to the ends of the earth. I think a strong call against the present-day materialism and unbelief is certainly in order.

I wish I could be at your fortieth anniversary party. I congratulate your Board, and all our Boards, that you have been able to do constructive work for the Master through all these years. It has helped not only the Presbyterians, but all the rest of us, men and women, and we thank God for you.

Sincerely, your friend,

LWP/IDO.

Mrs. Henry W. Peabody
LWP

BETH N. GENUNG, MINISTER

THE MANSE, 702 THIRD AVENUE, NORTH

The First Presbyterian Church

OF LANSINGBURGH

TROY, N. Y.

THIRD AVENUE AND 115TH STREET

R. E. Speer

NOV 2 1931

MS.

October 30, 1931

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. Speer:

I want to be one of the many who will congratulate you on your forty years of service as Secretary of our Board of Foreign Missions. You have done a monumental work through our Board, and your contributions through other organizations have been no less valuable.

May you be spared for many years of leadership in the great cause of helping to win the world to Christ.

Cordially and Fraternally,

Seth N. Genung

"ACHRAY"
MOUNTAIN LAKES
NEW JERSEY

October 31, 1931

Dear Mr. Speer

I can clearly recall the commencement of your forty years of service. It was just at the time when I was debating the question as to whether or not I should continue in business life or decide upon service as a General Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association.

Later on, while a student at Yale Divinity School, I attended a conference conducted by you at Hartford Seminary. Ever since those days I have followed you & many times been influenced by you. My first personal meeting with you was at the time of the

You are one, however, of but two
or three, in whom I take my
dearest delight. It comes to me
especially as I read the books
of old friends like Gaius Aethius,
Frank C. Porter, ⁺ ~~Graduate~~ Taylor
+ I am almost irritated when
Causer cuts down my space
in the T. C. Bulletin. Having lost
all concern for making any re-
cord of my own for life, I could
enjoy writing of these other records
+ I am now trying to help
Mr Pratt in reviewing the work
of Josiah Stroy in a memoir
volume. It is a great con-
solation when one has become
impotent himself.

So, as you go on for the rest
of your usefulness, please think
of it as something in which I
find a personal happiness beyond
any satisfaction that I now take
in any thing I may have done

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President

REV. H. L. BOWLBY, J.

General Secretary

GEORGE M. THOMSON

Treasurer

GENERAL OFFICES: 156 Fifth Avenue, New York

November 2, 1911

Dear Dr. Croswell,

This is a revision
of some lines I wrote on Dr. Speer's
I'm glad to pass it in to you, as President
of the Board of Foreign Missions. Most
deserved are all the tributes being paid
to our Senior Secretary.

Yours
H. L. Bowlby

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R O B E R T E. S P E E R

Fortieth Anniversary

as Secretary

The Board of Foreign Missions.

Oh, Huntingdon, what valiant son
Came from thy hall and heard the call
Of Christ the Way, and Christ the Life,
Who works with might to "Send the Light"
To choral strand and Pagan land
And prove this Life where Death is rife
And MAN is bound?

From boyhood's gate to man's estate
He walked with God. Christ's path he trod
In simplest love of purest wove
And hatred strong of cruel wrong.
Who is this man built on that plan?
His name is Speer, known far and near
The WORLD around!

What's in a name? Can it earn fame?
What worth a word, though often heard?
What claim a sword on battle sward?
If some strong heart doth not impart
A lifting power to make them tow'r
Above the rest in zone and zest?
O MIGHTY truth!

Robert E. Speer, we raise a cheer
To you the seer and pulpiteer,
Statesman, author and counselor,
From far or near, you have no peer
In mission zeal, the Kingdom's weal
On Foreign soil, at Home in toil.
You worked, you served. How well deserved
These honors now, yea more. We vow
This is the truth.

- Harry L. Bowlby -

November 2, 1931.

James E. Detweiler

R: E. Sp... THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

OCT 29 1931

SECRETARIES

JAMES E. DETWEILER

MISS ANN T. REID

ST. LOUIS OFFICE

1261 ARCADE BUILDING, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

030.

Thursday afternoon
October 22nd - 1931

My dear Doctor Speer: -

Mrs. Detweiler and I send you
our hearty congratulations
on the fortieth Anniversary
of your election as Secretary
of the Board. In my travels
about my district this fall
quite a few have mentioned
to me the matter of your
great service - always with
an expression of gratitude
to God and sincere
appreciation of your leadership.
Being as young as I am
I can, of course, remember

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

SECRETARIES

JAMES E. DETWEILER
MISS ANN T. REID

ST. LOUIS OFFICE

1261 ARCADE BUILDING, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

my own feelings² during my
student days in this regard,
and now because I enjoy
the fellowship of the staff,
those old feelings I regard
and confidence are the more
heightened. We are grateful
too for the vision and faith
of those members of the Board
who forty years ago
called you to this ministry.

With my personal regards to
Mr. Spear, and every best
wishes to you, I remain,

Yours sincerely,
James E. Detweiler

Heart of the Young English
and Hutchinsonian feeling
have been and are found
of your service to the
world. For I see you in
the coming years and
may you live to see a
greater work done among
the noble people of
the world.

Yours friend
John Hutchinson

John F. White

He has a commanding presence, good appearance and a fine voice. He was known throughout his city and the state, as well as in other parts of the nation, as an able and accomplished preacher and lecturer. S. PARKES CADMAN, Pastor Central Congregational Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Ross F. Wicks

ENDORSED BY

SENATOR S. D. FESS
COL. GEORGE W. BAIN
EX-GOVERNOR JAMES M. COX
THE LATE M. G. BRUMBAUGH
EX-GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA

REV. ROSS F. WICKS, D. D.

Lecturer

36 KEARNY STREET

NEWARK, N. J.

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BACKBONE
LOOKING FOR A MAN
KINGSHIP OF KINDNESS
HITCH YOUR WAGON TO A STAR
THE ROYALTY OF TRUE GREATNESS
WILLIAM MCKINLEY—SOLDIER,
STATESMAN AND CHRISTIAN
THE TRAFALGAR SQUARES IN LIFE'S
BATTLE
THE GOLDEN AGE
LINCOLN
THE HISTORY OF ACHIEVEMENT

My dear Mr. Wicks:

I am attending you this
time to congratulate you on your
long and efficient service in
the Presbyterian Church, and
to wish you many more
years of devoted service
to the great cause of Missions
that was a great stay for
the world, when announced in
London that your beloved
Mother had brought a son
into the world and his name
shall be Robert Wicks.

You have made good in
your life service in the work
you have done in the work
as near to the great

FROM THE PRINCE OF THE LECTURE PLATFORM

Ross F. Wicks is a cultured gentleman, having the power to intensely interest his audiences. The addresses at the Baptist Temple were most interest-
ing to our people and the call is sincere and loud for his return. Note in a letter from the late Russell H. Conwell.

Oct 31
NEWARK, N. J.
1931

E. Speer

Frank W. Bible

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

1931

CHICAGO OFFICE

1313 CHICAGO TEMPLE BUILDING, 77 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

DISTRICT SECRETARIES

FRANK W. BIBLE

MRS. ANDREW TODD TAYLOR

October 23, 1931

My dear Dr. Speer:

I wish very much I might be in New York on the 2nd of November to have an opportunity of expressing personally, something of my appreciation of the service which you have rendered to the cause of Foreign Missions. Your life and work have been an inspiration to me since I first heard you speak on Missions about 1898. The leadership which you have given to the work of our own Church during these years in which I have tried to invest my life in this cause, has meant more to me than I could tell or than you would probably believe, and the personal friendship of these years, has been one of the rich things of my life.

Sincerely yours,

FWB:EPL

Frank W. Bible

Mr. Robert E. Speer, D.D.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

JOHN WILSON WOOD, D. C. L.
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND
SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN WORK

REV. A. B. PARSON
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REV. CARROLL M. DAVIS, LL.D.
ACTING DOMESTIC SECRETARY

SECRETARY FOR LATIN AMERICA

J. G. VAUGHAN, M. D., MEDICAL ADVISER
(150 Fifth Avenue, New York)

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL
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IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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LEWIS B. FRANKLIN, TREASURER

IN REPLY TO THIS LETTER,
PLEASE REFER TO ITS DATE

DEPARTMENT OF MISSIONS

October 13, 1931

The Rev. Chas. R. Erdman, D. D.
President of the Presbyterian Board of
Foreign Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Erdman:-

May I acknowledge with many thanks the invitation to be present at the recognition of the fortieth anniversary of Robert Speer's election as a Secretary of the Board.

I shall certainly make every effort to be on hand, and I hope to arrive early enough to get at least a corner to stand in.

If it is not too late may I respectfully suggest to the Board that instead of having the meeting at 156 Fifth Avenue that you have it at Madison Square Garden. The capacity even of that auditorium would be taxed to hold Speer's friends.

Sincerely yours,

John W. Wood

JWW:ES

OFFICE OF

THE ROSEVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TELEPHONE BRANCH BROOK 3-3361

ROSEVILLE AND SUSSEX AVENUES

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

MISS MARY CAMPBELL

ASSISTANT TO THE M

WALTER WHALLON, MINISTER

10 ROSEVILLE AVENUE

RESOLUTION

Adopted by the Synod of New Jersey
in session at Atlantic City
Tuesday, October 20, 1931.

RESOLVED

that the Synod of New Jersey in view of the approaching Fortieth Anniversary of the official connection of Dr. Robert E. Speer with our Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, expresses to him our sense of deep obligation for his outstanding service in aggressive leadership in the Foreign Mission enterprise, and for his invaluable contribution as a consecrated Christian Statesman to the life of our Denomination and the Church of Christ in all the world.

From the report and resolutions of the Committee
on Foreign Missions of the Synod of New Jersey.

Walter L. Whallon
Chairman.

PRESBYTERY OF NEW YORK
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

REV. H. G. MENDENHALL
STATED CLERK

Oct 31/31

Dr Robert E. Speer
New York

Dear Dr Speer:-

Just a shake of the hand and my congratulations on your Anniversary which touches the heart of the entire church and gladdens the soul of minister and layman alike. God has indeed used you for His glory and you have responded so lavishly with talent and time that we all rejoice in the opportunity to celebrate with you this event in the life of the Board of Foreign Missions.

Cordially yours

H. G. Mendenhall

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE
228 McALLISTER ST.
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1931

STRICT SECRETARIES
WESTON T. JOHNSON
MISS MARCIA KERR

October 28, 1931.

My dear Dr. Speer,

May I add my greetings to the many others which will reach you on November 2. It has been a great joy to be associated with you during these years, and one of my regrets at my removal to the Pacific Coast has been the absence of these contacts.

But there is a satisfaction in knowing that even at such a distance we are working together for the cause of Foreign Missions.

May the years continue to bring you opportunities for service, and the rich rewards you deserve for your work in the past. May God's blessing rest on you and yours.

From this far-away member of your Board's family
Marcia Kerr

Twenty-two East Ninety-first Street
New York

My dear Dr. Speer,

May I join with your
other friends and fellow members
in sending my congratulations
on this anniversary day?

It seems a very short time
since I heard my father and
my grandfather, Colonel Hope,
talking of you not for
the Board but it must have
been several decades ago

October 30, 1931

It is a pleasure to hear from you
and to hear by friends all your
in the past in the
Helen Beach in Helen

When you were before
me here in the family
circle.

When you were there are many
more friends present in the
country was in them when
you are in mind.
Always with gratitude to
your leaders and with a
prayer for the world to
spirit of Christ is to heart
of me. And love me too
that the women are here a

When your name became
well known in the family
circle.

I am sure there are many
such family groups in this
country and in them where
you are often in mind,
always with gratitude for
your leadership and with a
prayer for the growth of the
spirit of Christ in the hearts
of men. And I am sure too
that the nurses as well as

to mean by friends we join today
in appreciating the light of you and
in all good things.

With warm regards
from Pearl & Helen

October 30, 1931

Dear Mr. Speer,

The forty years are for
you but a few days for the love
you have had for the Christ and
His world children. But I am
a thinking of all He has wrought
with these 14,600 days!!

My gratitude is great for the privilege
of serving with you these past ten
years.

My prayer is that the years that
are ahead may be richer in service
and fellowship with the Christ.

Yours sincerely,

May Kern Duguid.

October 30/1931.

REV. CHAS. E. SCHAEFFER, D. D.
PRESIDENT

J. Q. TRUXAL
1ST VICE-PRESIDENT

REV. F. H. RUPNOW, D. D.
2ND VICE-PRESIDENT

REV. J. RAUCH STEIN, D. D.
STATED CLERK

MILTO.
TRE.

MRS. L. L. ANEWALT
WM. W. ANSPACH
ALLEN R. BARTHOLOMEW
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A. R. BRODBECK
EMORY L. COBLENTZ
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EDWIN M. KLING
WM. F. KOSMAN
E. G. KRAMPE
F. W. LEICH

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE GENERAL SYNOD OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

REV. WILLIAM E. LAMPE, PH. D., EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
REV. J. M. G. DARMS, D. D., ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

424 SCHAFF BUILDING, 1505 RACE STREET

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

October 31, 1931.

MRS. F. W.
PAUL S. LEIN
EUGENE L. MC
J. H. MICKLEY
JAMES M. RUNK
F. H. RUPNOW
CHAS. E. SCHAEF
J. RAUCH STEIN
J. Q. TRUXAL
MILTON WARNER

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Speer:

I wish to congratulate you most heartily upon the completion of forty years of service as a missionary secretary.

I have known of your work during all of these forty years. I first heard you speak while I was an undergraduate at Princeton. I met you in 1907 at the meeting of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America. As I have not missed one of these annual meetings since then, I have seen much of you and your work and I think that you have been the most successful, constructive worker we have had in that body during all these years.

You have been an inspiration and a great help to me personally. I thank you and I pray that you have yet many years of fruitful service before you.

Most cordially yours,

William E. Lampe

Executive Secretary.

WILLIAM CHALMERS COVERT
 WITHERSPOON BUILDING
 PHILADELPHIA

October 31 1931

My dear Robert

I am glad to be counted
 among the friends that the forty
 years campaign has gathered
 around you! It has been for
 me a most inspiring friendship.
 I am sorry not to be present
 and take note of you blessing
 as the brethren sing your praises
 on Monday. I know of no one
 in Protestant America that
 during the generation has
 been given such a leadership!

God bless you with good
 health and many more years
 of hard work.

Ally

Wm. Covert

T. J. PRESTON
Pastor

Residence, 115 So. Sixth St.
Telephone 181

FEDERATED CHURCH
PATTERSON, CALIFORNIA

October 27th, 1931.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions,
New York.

Dear Mr. Speer:

The "Presbyterian Advance" of this week announces that on November 2nd you complete forty years of consecutive service with the Board of Foreign Missions. In common with many others may I extend congratulations to you, and wish for you and the church many more years of faithful service. Indirectly the Church should be congratulated on having your leadership in the missionary cause these many years, and the prayer of many will be that your strength may permit you to go on and on in this conspicuous service.

With best wishes on this happy anniversary occasion,

Very truly,

T. J. Preston

10/31/31

My dear Dr. Speer

I have just received the resolution from the Board of Foreign Missions for Monday afternoon November the second, when you

Received at ...

NJ23 16=CLIFTONSPRINGS NY 2 836A

ROBERT E SPEER=
156 FIFTH AVE=

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LET
7	

THE SANITARIUM COMPANY CONGRATULATES YOU AND THE PRESBYTERIAN BOARD A WORTHY ANNIVERSARY OF A SPLENDID SERVICE=

HUBERT SCHOONMAKER ACTING SUPERINTENDENT.

1812 BIRCH PAPERS
MAY 10 1844

My present my long business
I want to have, however,
to give you my very hearty
congratulations upon the
success which you have been
able to accomplish. and
to assure the hope that you
may have many more years

to guide me for the
privilege of celebrating
with you the first of
anniversary of your
election as Secretary.
I am glad
to say that our
rejoicings at what
I cannot change

friends would have the
privilege of celebrating
with you the fiftieth
anniversary of your
election as Secretary.

I am exceedingly
sorry that our
engagement which
I cannot change

WILLIAM C. COVERT, D.D., LL.D.
GENERAL SECRETARY

HAROLD MCA. ROBINSON, D.D.
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Board of Christian Education, Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.

DISTRICT OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF MEN'S WORK

TELEPHONE WATKINS 9-4100

156 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK

CHARLES H. McDONALD, D.D.
ASSOCIATE GENERAL DIRECTOR

WILLIAM F. WEIR, D.D., LL.D.
GENERAL DIRECTOR

November 2, 1931.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
B U I L D I N G

My dear Dr. Speer:-

I wish to join with others in hearty congratulations to you on the fortieth anniversary of your service to the Cause of Foreign Missions. It is needless for me to attempt to add to the many expressions of appreciation concerning the great work you have done for the entire Church of Jesus Christ in her mission to the unprivileged Nations. It will be the desire of all that you may still have strength to lead the Church in carrying out her great commission.

Cordially yours,

Charles H. McDonald

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St. Mark's Pro-Cathedral

Grand Rapids, Michigan

October 31, 1931

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. Speer:

It was a delight to notice in the New York Times of a few weeks ago that the completion of your forty years as Secretary to the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions is to be recognized next Monday afternoon. It is a joy to know that public expression is to be given to the great debt that many of us owe to you.

As a senior in Harvard College while also enrolled as a junior in the Episcopal Theological School, I had the privilege of attending the Student Volunteer meeting at Toronto. Ever since that time I have shared with the college students of my generation a debt of vision and service which can only be paid by trying to do in our local fields what you have been doing throughout the world.

The delightful and intimate contacts that I have been privileged to have through your friendship with Mrs. Randall Dorfee have been one of the choicest privileges of my life. Well do I remember our little visit in New London, New Hampshire, the address that you gave to the Grand Rapids Ministers at the time of the Presbyterian Conference, and again our visit in New York two years ago. Your books from time to time have been a foundation for ever growing conviction of the truth of your utterances.

I can well believe that your own board can see what your life has meant from the center outward. Those of us who ecclesiastically are not under your direction just as truly rejoice in the light and wisdom and challenge that you have brought again and again. May the day be rich in appreciation and the spirit of recognition that you have so generously blessed all others even while you too have been gloriously blessed.

Believe me

Very sincerely yours,

Charles E. Jackson

Dean

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE
228 McALLISTER ST.
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Oct. 28th, 1931

STRICT SECRETARIES
WESTON T. JOHNSON
MISS MARCIA KERR

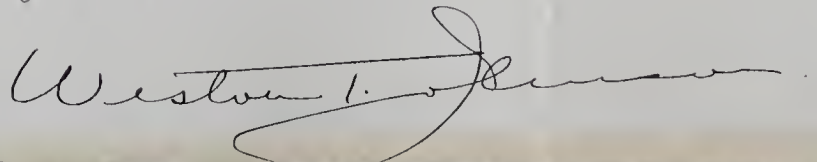
Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Dr. Speer:

I am writing a word of heartiest congratulation upon the completion of forty years of note-worthy service with the Board of Foreign Missions. I wish I could be present to grasp your hand and tell you personally the things that well up in my heart as I recall your significant service. You were a great inspiration to me as a student, especially at Princeton Seminary and you were a never failing guide and counsellor during my missionary service in Japan. Increasingly during these later years I have been quickened in spirit, buoyed up in my faith and enriched in my understanding as I have met you and have listened to your interpretation of our Lord and Saviour and His desire for the world's redemption.

May God's richest blessing be with you on your anniversary day and may His spirit of love and grace enrich every recurring day.

Very sincerely yours,



WTJ/EL

119
Speer

NORTH AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CORNER PEACHTREE STREET AND NORTH AVENUE
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

2 1931

October 29, 1931.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Speer:

I am deeply indebted to you for your kindness in sending to me a copy of the biography of Dr. Shedd of Persia. Not only do I appreciate your courtesy because of the inspiration I am sure the story of the great life the book contains will mean to me but also I am grateful because I have been included among those you cared to remember.

May I also thank you for the copy of the last report sent home by Mrs. James S. Cushman. Fresh news from the front at this time is of real value to those of us who are striving to keep ourselves and our people keenly alive to the present world situation and need.

We of Atlanta were greatly helped last week by the talk given before our Church Council by Dr. Mott while he was an attendant upon the Ecumenical Congress meeting here. I do not believe I have ever heard Dr. Mott when he was more impressive or when his appeal was more gripping. I thank God again and again for men like yourself and Dr. Mott who feel the pulse of the world and are able to interpret to us the Kingdom's needs as you do.

I have many times wished that my three boys, all of whom are now either grown or approaching full manhood, might have the same inspiration that came to me in my student days by the influence and leadership I found in yourself, Dr. Mott, Mr. D.L. Moody and the group that were associated with him.

Again assuring you of my keen appreciation and praying that God may long continue and ever enlarge your service in His cause, I am

Very cordially yours,

Richard Mott

ROF:JG

36 Gramercy Park
New York

Nov. 2: 1937.

Dear Robert:

I can understand something
of the solemn joy and quiet peace that you
and Mrs. Sprue must be feeling this evening
in the thought of the gathering of your
friends and the mutual words they speak
your leaving this afternoon.

Surely you will accept our
affectionate and sincere assurances that
less than forty years have meant much
to us as to the great cause in which
we have a common interest and which
you have served so bravely and so faithfully.

God has assured through you
to serve His true and powerful cause
and we are not unmindful of His His
gift to His Church and to the Christian world.

Sincerely and affectionately

Wells.

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THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO
WILLIAM HERBERT HUDNUT, MINISTER

October 31
1 9 3 1

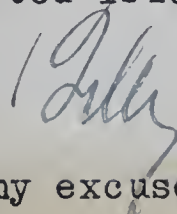
Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

My dear Bob:

I was most anxious to be present at the Board meeting next Monday both because I had not been able to come for a long time and especially because of the announcement of the recognition by the Board of your forty years of service. My plans were all made and then came the death of a young man in my Church who for six months has been fighting a losing battle with a mysterious and unbeatable heart disease and who although defeated by death won a marvelous spiritual victory. The funeral is Monday afternoon.

Since I cannot be present as I long to be, I want to express to you my appreciation of the distinguished service that you have rendered to the cause of Christ throughout the whole world. Many of us have been permitted to render a little service here and there but very few have been permitted to influence the world. I am very sure that as you celebrate this fortieth anniversary your heart will be full of praise and thanksgiving just as ours are who share with you the rejoicing of this day. It is my earnest prayer that God will give you wisdom and courage and strength to face these changing and most difficult times. I want again to pledge to you my loyal cooperation and support.

Your very devoted friend,



WHH:MIC

P.S. Will you please present my excuse for absence from the meeting.

REV. HUGH H. BELL, D.D.
NUMBER TWO KENSINGTON WAY
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Evangelistic Work Rendered
EITHER UNION
MEETINGS, OR IN SEPARATE
CONGREGATIONS

November-2nd--1931

Emergency Pastoral Service
FOR PULPIT-VACANT
CONGREGATIONS IN ANY PART OF
THE UNITED STATES

Dr. Robert E. Spear,
General Secretary-Board of
Foreign Missions-Presbyterian Church,
#-156- Fifth Avenue,
New York City,
New York.

My Very Dear Friend Robert:

This message should have taken off to you late week ^{ago;}
but a rather severe cold got the better of me.

However, good Mrs. Bell and I feel we cannot let go
by the happy occasion of your Fortieth Anniversary, ^{poor} without
adding, to the MULTITUDES of congratulatory Telegrams and
letters that we know you will receive. To be sure our
friendship is small compared with hundreds-even thousands
of others who are much closer to you--dear, dear Fellow; but
not one of them loves you more than we do; or has occasion
to honor you more than we feel like doing.

That the Lord has spared you to see this day; that He
has so marvelously blessed you in the great work; that He
led you into such a commanding Holy Spirit filled man; that
He has developed you ^{along} the way as intellectually and
spiritually so far above and beyond all other Leaders whom
I know; and that He has lifted you into the most outstanding
and foremost Christian Statesman of our day---all, all lifts
in my heart compelling GRATITUDE to Him!

Nor, has He done with you yet Robert. Somehow I feel He
has yet GREATER things in the future for you; and through you
for Foreign Missions and International Good will. BE IT SO!

Hence our felicitations are the FULLEST of the full.
Would that I could take you by the hand and tell you so.

Robert, it is a far, far day since first you and I met in
that little Prayermeeting, at Alexandria, Va., when noble Dr.
Arthur T. Pierson called a few of us together!

Do not take valuable time to answer this amidst ALL your
many obligations in this line. Be assured of sweet LOVE-in
Him, and of special prayers.

Affectionately yours

Hugh H. Bell

123

Forest Hill Presbyterian Church

Heller Parkway and Highland Avenue
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

PERCY R. NUESSELE,
CLERK OF SESSION

REV. PAUL R. HICKOK, D.D.
PASTOR

RICHARD M. HANSCHKA,
CHURCH TREASURER

CHARLES T. STAINES,
PRESIDENT OF TRUSTEES

PHOEBE L. WOOLSON,
OFFICE SECRETARY

November 2nd. 1931

Mr. Robert E. Speer, D.D.
156 Fifth Ave.
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Speer:-

At our meeting last night we took note of the fact that today is your 40th Anniversary with the Foreign Mission Board of our church. As a Session we wish to express our extreme gratitude on the services you have rendered our Denomination as a leader and the stimulus you have given to the entire work of the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ here on earth. Please accept our heartiest congratulations on this happy occasion and our hope that we may continue to have the benefit of your experience, wisdom and consecration for many years to come.

Cordially yours,

Percy R. Nuessele

Clerk of Session

The Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

HENRY B. MASTER, D.D.
GENERAL SECRETARY

REV. REID S. DICKSON
ASSOCIATE SECRETARY AND
RECORDING SECRETARY

GEORGE A. HUGGINS
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F. JOSEPHINE FRAME
ASSISTANT TREASURER

W. J. McMILLEN
ASSISTANT TREASURER

ELLA M. GRAY
ASSISTANT RECORDING SECRETARY

912 WITHERSPOON BUILDING
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Oct. 31, 1931

Western District Office

228 McALLISTER STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

J. M. SKINNER, D.D.
REPRESENTATIVE

Western District

ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA
COLORADO, IDAHO, MONTANA
NEVADA
NEW MEXICO, OREGON, UTAH
WASHINGTON
WYOMING

Rev. Robert E. Speer, D.D.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Dr. Speer:

I have just noticed that you are approaching the fortieth anniversary of your coming to the Board of Foreign Missions.

May I add my word of congratulation to the many you undoubtedly will receive. It has been forty years of marvelous service you have rendered to the Church, and I am very sure it must bring a great deal of joy and happiness to your heart.

I trust that the Church may have many more years of your splendid leadership.

With the kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. M. Skinner
J. M. Skinner

JMS:B

TERTIUS VAN DYKE
WASHINGTON, CONN.

3 p.m. - Nov 2. 1931

My dear Dr. Speer:

Although I am prevented from being present at the assembly of your co-workers & friends which is now meeting, I will not deny myself the pleasure of sending you a line on the 40th anniversary of your election as Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions.

There are thousands of people like myself all over the world who rejoice & thank God for the work you have done & are doing & for your faith right witness under all circumstances. To this I must add the blessing I experience in having been associated with you during my last years in New York.

With gratitude & affection

Sincerely yours

Tertius van Dyke

Dr. Robert E. Speer
New York



Rev: Robert H. Sher D. D. Nov 27, 1931
To my eminent friend, on his fortieth
anniversary, continue on to a hundred
and may we all live to say the staunch
Old Oak is a Century old, and still
going strong. With fondest love,
and deep appreciation, for the
affection, and sincere friendship
of God's humble servant, who has
so endeared himself to me.

Officer Sydney E. Hutchins
Traffic 23rd St + B. way.

May Heaven's Peace abide with you,
As you serve in His name each day
And shed its holy light
divine
Upon your chosen way.

THE UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH
IN AMERICA
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
LUTHERAN CHURCH HOUSE
39 EAST THIRTY-FIFTH STREET
NEW YORK

November 4, 1932

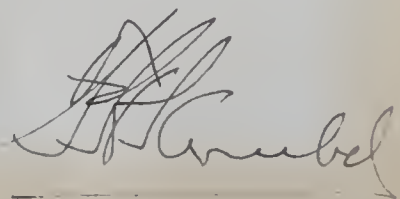
Dear Dr. Speer:

I had not known of the occasion which was celebrated a few days ago until I read the accounts in the newspapers. It can never be too late however to tell you that I am among the many who thank our Lord that He gave you to us ^{and} who thank you for your faithfulness to Him — and therefore your faithfulness to us.

Forty years — and I suppose you feel that you have at this time merely become well accustomed to your work, and ready now to do a good job. So it was with Moses. Well, the other of us believe it has been a good job all along.

May these days be filled with new joy for you, and new hope.

Yours,



not attempt an acknowledgment.

Ledyard Cogswell, Jr.
75 State Street
Albany, N. Y.

November 4, 1931.

Dr. Robert E. Speir,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Dr. Speir:

I was reading in the paper yesterday of your fortieth anniversary. May I send you my heartiest congratulations on the splendid work you have done all these years.

My first memory of you is in June 1896 when you gave a talk on "Purity" at Northfield, the effect of which has been with me ever since. I can visualize now your speaking, and then the after events when Mr. Moody took part.

Not only is the Presbyterian Church fortunate in having your splendid help, but so are all endeavors to make life in this world more complete and wholesome.

It has always been a pleasure to have seen you as our paths crossed here and elsewhere, and I certainly wish you continuous health and ability to carry on your work.

Very sincerely yours,

Ledyard Cogswell Jr.

Wm Hiram Foulkes

WILLIAM HIRAM FOULKES
OLD FIRST CHURCH
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

November 3, 1931

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Robert;

What a wealth of affection, esteem and confidence was poured into your lap yesterday! I understand perfectly how distasteful anything fulsome is to you but I know you must have observed deep and tremendous reality in all that was said and done. To me personally you have been and continue to be a source of the most unalloyed inspiration. I came home yesterday afternoon to sit alone with my conscience and to check up my life in the light of what I had heard and felt yesterday and to resolve, God helping me, with such a noble friendship as yours, to be not merely a better man but the best I can be.

Forgive me, please, for making this letter also a vehicle of an earnest invitation which I give, with my bow drawn at a venture, to you to give a brief twenty or twenty-five minute message at the annual Armistice Day service in Old First Church, next Wednesday at noon. We provide an honorarium of Fifty Dollars. We desire to pour into the life of this crowded city something of that spirit that we feel you could bring to us.

Miss Goll will call Miss Connell sometime Wednesday morning to find whether, by any chance, you can come.

With ceaseless esteem,

Affectionately yours,

William
William Hiram Foulkes

WHF/JBG

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THE MARKET SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

R. E. Speer

RAYMOND C. WALKER, MINISTER

CHURCH OFFICE AND STUDY
Rooms 11 and 12
Harrisburg National Bank Building

November 2, 1931.

Mr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

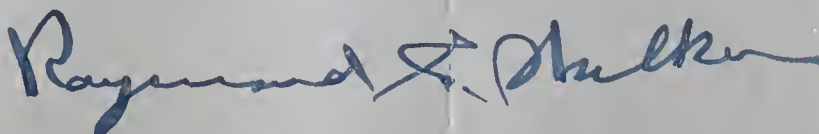
Dear Mr. Speer:

I want to thank you most sincerely for the copy of "The Measure of a Man" which you so kindly had sent to me. The volume reached me several days ago but I have had no opportunity to read it. Mrs. Walker has been ill since last June and last week, shortly after the book arrived, I took her to her home and gave her the book to read while she sojourns there. I also appreciate the letters of Mrs. Cushman and thank you for sending them to me.

I was so sorry that you could not be with us for our Spiritual Retreat. I finally decided to take the services myself, with Dr. Cleaveland to assist me in the opening Devotions and I was very greatly gratified at the number who were present. You will recall that we invited only Church Officers and workers in the various Departments and Organizations. In the afternoon we had 120 present and when we closed with the Lord's Supper in the evening, 144 partook of the Supper. I feel that it was by all means, the most important meeting that has been held in Market Square Church since my coming here.

And now as I write, may I be permitted, with your host of friends everywhere, to extend to you my very heartiest congratulations on the completion of forty years with the Board of Foreign Missions. You have many friends who have spoken of your work and with deep appreciation, I am sure, but I am confident that no one appreciates more than I do myself, the self-sacrificing labors of the years, and the tremendous contribution that your life has been to the Kingdom of our Lord in this, our generation. All through the years your ministry has been a great inspiration to me and I would not feel satisfied if I were not to tell you so now. I only pray that your life and health may be preserved for many years so that you can continue to render the service which is so much needed.

Very cordially yours,



Raymond C. Walker

RCW:Z



First Presbyterian Church
Woodward Avenue and Edmund Place
Detroit, Michigan

Nov. 4, 1931

Rev. Robert E. Speer, D. D. LL.D.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City.

Dear Robert:

I got home Saturday evening from a round of addresses for our Board and found in my mail the invitation to the party for your fortieth anniversary. It was impossible for me to be present, but I cannot let the event pass without telling you how precious you are to us as a church and what a blessing you have been to me in my own individual life. Our contacts have always deepened my spiritual life and strengthened me for the Master's work. Words cannot express the esteem and affection which we cherish for you nor the gratitude that fills our hearts for all God has accomplished you to do in the leadership of the Christian activities of our generation.

Yours devotedly,

Joseph A. Vance.

R S McClenahan

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY AT CAIRO

LAND TITLE BUILDING

PHILADELPHIA

E. Speer

NOV 6 1931

WILLIAM BANCROFT HILL

CHAIRMAN

JOSEPH M. STEELE

TREASURER

HERMANN A. LUM

SECRETARY

CHARLES R. WATSON

PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY

November 5th, 1931.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 - Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Dr. Speer:

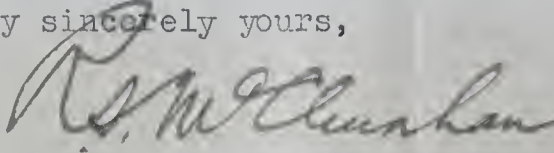
May I be permitted to join my voice in congratulations and profoundest appreciation to those of a multitude of friends who, at home and abroad, will be sending you messages on the occasion of your completing forty years of magnificent service for the Kingdom. It will be impossible for me to express myself adequately and I am sure I could never come up to the standards of such an expression as set by many, many others; I can only say a most earnest and heartfelt "Amen" to all they have said.

In saying this, I speak both personally and on behalf of my wife, looking back to the time when first, thirty-five years ago, we had the inspiration of your leadership and then through all these years, when both personally and officially we have had the privilege of cooperation in many ways.

Let me assure you as so many others have done what unspeakable pleasure it has been to realize we were in the ranks with you and to be conscious of that great and unmeasured service which you have rendered throughout the world; both by your spoken word and by your printed messages which have touched so many at home and abroad.

Again assuring you of this deep appreciation and with best wishes for the remaining days of your splendid service, I am

Very sincerely yours,



R. S. McCLENAHAN.

Third Presbyterian Church,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

October 23, 1931.

Rev. Chas. R. Erdman, D. D.,
The Board of Foreign Missions,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Erdman:-

When I received the invitation to attend a meeting of the Board of Foreign Missions in recognition of the fortieth anniversary of Dr. Speer's services, I planned to come and sit among those who love and honor him.

I find now that an Annual Meeting of all the mission workers of the Presbytery falls on that date and is in our chapel. As I have to preside and speak at this meeting, and my absence would seriously embarrass these faithful people, I am persuaded that I ought to remain at home.

I appreciate the invitation and I would rejoice to be present, but I can only send my regrets and the expression of my respect and affection for Dr. Speer.

With good wishes,

Your friend sincerely,

William L. McEwan

Samuel Mc C. Cavert

THE FEDERAL COUNCIL
OF THE
CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA

76

Nov 5 1931

THE GENERAL SECRETARY
SEVENTY-SECOND STREET
NEW YORK

November 4, 1931

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Speer:

Many thanks for letting me see the letter from Mr. Howard of the Sunday School Times, which I return herewith. I am sure that this letter, together with others written by Dr. de Schweinitz, Dr. Summey, Dr. Weigle and others, will be of real help.

Miss Speer

I had heard informally some time ago that there was to be a service in recognition of your completion of forty years with the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions and had made a note to ask if I might have the privilege of attending it. When I called up about noon on Monday to inquire at what hour in the afternoon the service was to be held, I discovered, to my genuine disappointment, that it was then in session and nearly over. I want you at least to know that my thoughts were with you on the day and that I join in spirit with the host of friends who rejoice in the wonderful service which you have rendered. I never cease to be grateful for the opportunities of fellowship with you and for all that you have done for me.

Faithfully yours,

Samuel McCreca Cavert

SAMUEL MCCREA CAVERT
General Secretary



BRANCH BROOK
3604

REV. PAUL R. HICKOK
FOREST HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

9th November 1931

Doctor Robert E Speer
#156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Doctor Speer

Please let me add a word of congratulation and good wishes to the multitude of such expressions that will be coming to you in these days. It will not be easy for your friends to express the gratitude they feel for these forty years. And it will be quite impossible for you to understand the joy and inspiration that your leadership in these years have afforded.

I think I have spoken to you of our first meeting at a Y.M.C.A. convention in Beatrice, Newbraska, some time before these forty years began. I was one of the younger boys attending the "Boys' Branch" of the convention. You will not remember an afternoon walk with that small boy, along the bank of the creek leading away from the prairie town. But the memory of it, and your earnest talk and prayer, have been vivid and fresh in my heart, and they have given a tone to every act of my ministry.

It is with very sincere feeling of personal and lasting indebtedness that I am sending this little reminder of love, and my frequent prayer "God bless you".

Yours very cordially,

Geo W. Brown

E. Speer

116

NOV 5 1931

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY



BIBLE HOUSE

ASTOR PLACE

NEW YORK CITY

NORTH
WILLIAM BROWN
GENERAL SECRETARIES
CHAMBERLAIN
RECORDING SECRETARY
S W FOWLE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
DARLINGTON
CASURER

CABLE
"BIBLEHOUSE"
TELE
ST UYVES

November 4, 1931

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Speer:

I am quite eager that the Budget and Finance Committee of the General Council at its November meeting in Chicago shall not disarrange the present relationship to the benevolence budget sustained by the American Bible Society.

Would you be kind enough to send me a brief paragraph indicating your own personal evaluation of the Society's service to the work of the Board of Foreign Missions to be incorporated in a brief memorandum which I desire to present to the Budget and Finance Committee.

It was a distinct pleasure to be present on Monday afternoon at the exercises commemorating your forty years with the Board of Foreign Missions. As I stated to you, your greatest contribution to my religious life was your manner of handling the delicate problems which arose at the General Assembly at San Francisco when you were Moderator, at which Assembly it was my privilege to be a Commissioner. That Assembly was religious from beginning to end and was to me a significant spiritual experience.

Faithfully yours,
George Wm. Brown

George Wm. Brown
General Secretary

Arthur B. McCormick

Second Presbyterian Church

OIL CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

E. Speer

NOV 12 1931
Arthur B. McCormick, Minister
113 REED STREET

November 6, 1931.

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Speer:-

It was with pleasure that I saw your name on the editorial page of the New York Times. What was said about you was well and worthily written. Let me join with a host of friends in congratulating you on the completion of forty years with the Board. May your bow abide in strength.

With regret I learn of the threatened deficit facing the Board of Foreign Missions. I am glad to report that this Church thus far is keeping up all of her obligations. The salaries of our missionaries and the obligations of the Women's Missionary Societies have been paid in full to January first, and by that time we hope to have enough money in sight to complete our years payments.

With very best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Arthur B. McCormick

Arthur B. McCormick.

ABM:AJC

R. E. Speer

NOV 17 1931

David M Skilling

David M. Skilling, D. D.
226 SPENCER ROAD
WEBSTER GROVES, MISSOURI

November 13, 1931.

Ans.
Dear Doctor Speer...

Please accept my very hearty congratulations on your completion of forty years as Secretary of the Board, and my sincere wish that you may have a number of more years in that blessed Service. God has enriched the Church through your consecrated Service and has spoken to the Nations through you!

With best regards for Mrs. Speer and yourself, I am
Sincerely,

David M. Skilling.

Moderator
REV. W. SCOTT BOWMAN
22 W. Fayette Street
Uniontown, Pa.

Chairman, National Missions
REV. M. M. McDIVITT
Knoxville, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Chairman, Foreign Missions
REV. JOSEPH L. WEISLEY
Forty Fort, Kingston, Pa.

Chairman, Christian Education
REV. DeWITT T. SCOTT
Ford City, Pa.

W. M. Cleaveland
Synod of Pennsylvania
Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Synodical Secretary
REV. W. M. CLEAVELAND
Payne-Shoemaker Building
Harrisburg, Pa.
Office—Phone 7997

Stated Clerk
REV. GLENN M. SHAFER
243 S. Hanover Street
Carlisle, Pa.

Chairman, Pensions
REV. RAYMOND C. WALKER
Harrisburg National Bank Bldg.
Harrisburg, Pa.

Chairman, Promotion
REV. CHARLES H. WILLIAMS
Grove City, Pa.

Chairman, Finance
REV. T. STACY CAPERS
Hollidaysburg, Pa.

NOV 17 1931
November 16, 1931

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Speer:

Along with the countless numbers of your friends, may I also add my congratulations upon your completion of forty years in the service of the Board of Foreign Missions of our church?

You doubtless look back with great satisfaction upon the privilege which has been yours these years as you have occupied the position of the most outstanding leader of world missions not only of our church but of all denominations. I know your modesty is such that you might not be willing to accept such a statement. At the same time, we who know you and your work most intimately know how very true this is.

I trust health and strength for many days may be yours. Because of your rich experience through the years you will be able to lead us to even greater things in His name and for His sake.

Very sincerely yours,

W. M. Cleaveland
W. M. Cleaveland

WMC:S

Murray Shipley Howland

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

NOV 13 1931

Nov. 13, 1931

Ans. _____

Robert E. Speer, D. D.,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York City.

My dear Dr. Speer:

I want to have the pleasure of adding my congratulations to the great multitude which I am sure you have received on the completion of such a long period of service for the Foreign Board and for our church. No one can estimate the value of your leadership through all these years during which you have kept yourself from the perfunctoriness of an official position, your faith always radiant and vital, and your spirit untinged by harshness or narrowness. You have been for us all a great leader.

Slight illness on my part has made this letter late in reaching you.

With kindest regards to Mrs. Speer whose part in your work has been a very large one,

Faithfully yours,

Murray Shipley Howland

Joseph Hunter

Bloomfield Theological Seminary
Bloomfield, N. J.

NOV 21 1931

JOSEPH HUNTER, D. D., President
ALLISON DODD, Treasurer

November 20th, 1931.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Speer:

I understand you are celebrating this month the fortieth anniversary of your service as Secretary of our Foreign Board.

I want to extend the congratulations of our presbytery, as well as my own, to you on this occasion. You have rendered a very distinguished ministry to the Church of Christ during these years and have added lustre to the office that you fill. I sincerely hope that you may serve for many years more in that capacity, as there does not seem to be anyone who could altogether fill your place.

Assuring you of my warmest appreciation of your personality as well as your service,

I am very sincerely yours,

Joseph Hunter

JH:EA

Ralph Marshall Davis
Church of the Covenant
(PRESBYTERIAN)
Erie, Pennsylvania

November 6, 1931

OFFICE
250 WEST SEVENTH

RALPH MARSHALL DAVIS
MINISTER

NOV 7 1931
R.M.D.

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Speer:

I have your letter and regret that you cannot be with us in January. Have you any engagements that bring you near enough to us to speak for us on any Sunday in December excepting the first Sunday? Either December 13, 20, or 27. I am anxious to have you out here to minister for a Sunday to this great church of mine and I am not going to satisfy myself with anyone less than you, providing I can get you at all.

Although a bit delayed would you accept my congratulations upon your completion of forty years of service as our Secretary. It is not necessary for me to add any word whatever to the thousands of tributes expressed in the hearts of men and women everywhere. You gathered to yourself a fruitage of which the Christian world is proud, proud that God has used you so mightily in behalf of Himself and His church. My hope is that many years may yet be yours to share your abundant leadership in the affairs of the Kingdom of God.

With my kind regards,

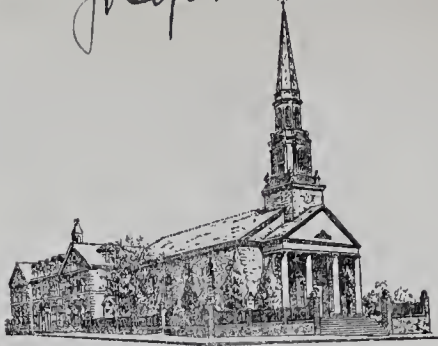
Very sincerely yours,

Ralph Davis

RALPH MARSHALL DAVIS

RMD:W

Joseph A. Devans



FIRST AND CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 ORGANIZED 1920
 MARKET STREET AT ELEVENTH
 WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

December 19, 1931.

Dr. Robert E. Speer, Secretary Presbyterian
 Board of Foreign Missions,
 New York City.

My dear Dr. Speer:

In making a Missionary Report to our congregation I referred to the fact that you had been Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions for forty years. Immediately a resolution was offered and unanimously carried that we send to you our heartiest congratulations and best wishes.

The resolution herewith:-

WHEREAS it has come to the knowledge of the First and Central Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, Delaware, that this year marks the Fortieth Anniversary of Dr. Robert E. Speer's connection, as Secretary, with the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, and that from every Missionary Field has come words of highest appreciation for the fine, full and fruitful service Dr. Speer has given to the cause of Missions throughout the whole wide world.

RESOLVED that we send to Dr. Speer the congratulations of our Church, and wish for him many more years of service in his truly superabundant missionary life.

RESOLVED that we congratulate ourselves that we have had such a truly wise and efficient leader, one who has made every denomination his debtor and the entire heathen world his parish. Doing with his might what his hand has found to do has endeared Dr. Speer to the whole Christian Church and all forms of religious activities both at home and abroad. HALLELUJAH!

Very truly yours,

Joseph A. Devans,
 Clerk of Session.

Frederic E Taylor

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MISSIONARIES:
MISS ESTELLE HARDING
65 THE BLACHERNE.
MISS EVA FEWELL
FALLON, NEV.
MISS MARY E. PHILLIPS
RANGOON, BURMA.
REV. AND MRS. R. T. CAPEN
SWATOW, CHINA.
V. AND MRS HOWARD MYERS
RANGOON, BURMA.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

MERIDIAN AND VERMONT STREETS
REV. FREDERICK E. TAYLOR, D.D., PASTOR
1935 NORTH MERIDIAN STREET
REV. OSCAR R. McKAY, D.D.,
ASSOCIATE PASTOR

CHURCH CLERK
J. E. SHEWMON
4420 BROADWAY
CHURCH TREASURER
C. S. MERRICK
N. MER. & VERMONT STS.
MISSIONARY TREASURER
ROBERT H. DIETZ
N. MER. & VERMONT STS.
PASTOR'S SECRETARY
MISS ROSE ROUSH
N. MER. & VERMONT STS.

INDIANAPOLIS
December 16, 1931

Dr Robert E Speer
Presbyterian Building
Fifth Avenue, New York, N Y

My dear Dr Speer:

An article in one of the religious weeklies tells me that you have been celebrating your 40th Anniversary with the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions. I can hardly believe that it is the 40th but I presume that the paper was right. In any case, I wish to extend heartiest congratulations on such a marvelous record not only from the standpoint of time but also for the contribution which you have made all across the years not only to the denomination which you represent but to every denomination that loves the Lord Jesus.

I think I have read everything you have ever printed even the lovely tribute to Louise Andrews. I remember Louise and her sister Gertrude because I was entertained in that home years ago when I was a student at Colgate and went down there to hold some meetings in the Presbyterian Church, and continued the friendship all across the years with Mr Fred Andrews until his death.

I would like to add that your last book was read with great pleasure and profit and certainly it has been a source of great joy to see one in your position holding to some of the things that some of us have not found reason to forsake, yet.

With constant appreciation, I am

Very sincerely yours.

Frederick E. Taylor

FET:BP

PS: Please do not think it necessary to reply. You have enough letters to write without adding another one to the list.

VILLIAM C. COVERT, D.D., LL.D.
GENERAL SECRETARY

Wm F Weir

HAROLD MCA. ROBINSON, D.D.
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

R. E. Speer

Board of Christian Education, Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.

DISTRICT OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF MEN'S WORK

Ans. _____

77 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

CLAIR BOYD GAHAGAN
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

WILLIAM F. WEIR, D.D., LL.D.
GENERAL DIRECTOR

December 10
1931

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. Speer:

I have noted with genuine interest the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of your service in the Board of Foreign Missions. I want to join the great host of your friends in expressing my own evaluation of this event. Probably it has not occurred in any previous period that a man has served this or any other agency in our Church for so long and with such distinguished leadership and achievement. I hear you spoken of often as in a very small group of outstanding statesmen in our whole country. With this position that you occupy I am in full accord.

I have pleaded persistently and successfully for Foreign Missions during my twenty-seven years in the pastorate and in all the years since. My heart is the more in this great cause because I have a representative in it in my son. I greatly appreciate your own recognition of the value of his service. Dr. Bible brought to me a remarkable story about John when he returned from the Orient.

Wishing for you many years of achievement and satisfaction even surpassing the years that are gone, and with very warm personal regards.

Sincerely,

William F. Weir

WFW/AK

C. R. Watson

THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
AT CAIRO

CAIRO, EGYPT

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

6th January, 1932.

R. E. Speer
INCORPORATED
AT WASHINGTON
IN 1919.
EXECUTIVE OFFICE IN U. S. A.
1120 LAND TITLE BUILDING,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
DEPARTMENTS OPENED
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL STUDIES
UNIVERSITY EXTENSION DEPARTMENT

ns.

My dear Speer,

I received an interesting clipping through Dr. McIlennyahan, my associate, telling of the reception that was given to you to celebrate 40 years of your activity as Secretary of your Board. As I certainly would have been one of those wanting to share in that great gathering if I had been in America, I will write to you from here to give you my sincere and heartfelt congratulations.

I feel I owe so much to you personally for many of my ideals and for the steadying of my courage across a great many years that I would want to speak a word of personal gratitude, in addition to that other word of appreciation for what you have meant to the entire missionary movement throughout the world. It is difficult to voice such deep feelings as I feel and I suppose that is the significance of the stage of a general public occasion of thanksgiving and congratulation: it enables one to feel that a situation and a public gathering are voicing what no human words can express.

I am expecting to be in America about the end of February and will doubtless be there through the spring and summer. Of course I hope to see you at some time while I am home. I trust that the year has been one of success, inspite of the adverse economic situation and that both you and Mrs. Speer keep well and that all is going well with the children who are now establishing homes for themselves.

Before I close, let me thank you for sending me two copies of your Lakeville Conference a year ago. Many of these findings give me much courage and are in line with much that I had in mind when I wrote my recent article in the International Review of Missions on "Rethinking Missions".

With all good wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156, Fifth Avenue,
New York City,
New York, U.S.A.

C. R. Watson

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Nov. 2, '31

Dear Dr. Speer:

There is no need of my telling you at this time of my love and admiration - which have grown steadily since the day I first heard you speak at The Hill - in the fall of 1904 - twenty-seven years ago. You spoke then on the text - "Watch ye: stand fast in the faith - quit you like men: be strong" - You spoke at the H.M. Chapel with the same words stamped in gold above the platform - and you have lived it with a proof of faith more precious than gold during these forty years as Secretary - You see I really know you as a Secretary as I have been a missionary to your department as well as a member of the office staff - and the members of both associations are grateful and happy men - May the Lord bless you and keep you and cause His face to shine upon you - for at least forty more years ^{to come!} affectionately yours H. P. W.

Tsu, Ise, Japan, Feb. 6, 1932.

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1932
Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156, Fifth Avenue,
New York.

Dear Dr. Speer,

An Executive Committee communication received this afternoon informs me as follows:-

"CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. SPEER.

It was voted to request Dr. Dunlop to write to Dr. Speer congratulating him in the name of the Mission on his forty years of service with the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A."

I could hardly be asked to do anything that I would jump to with more alacrity.

It is already more than ten years since you ceased to have special connection with the Japan Mission, but to those of us who had the privilege of being in Japan through the years of your long connection the impress of your personality, of your faith and your constant insistence on spiritual realities, agencies, and resources, was so strong that we still feel its impact as if you had hardly ceased to conduct the Japan correspondence. We have had also the inspiration of your writings and of your unexcelled prestige and moral authority in the church at home, and we rejoice especially at all times that the church's all too much unrecognized work of world evangelization is the main practical interest and daily business of one of the greatest souls and minds ever given to the Presbyterian Church in any land.

Your visits to this Mission are recalled with the greatest pleasure and some of us at least do not need even to look up the records for the dates, remembering well the benefits that came to the work in 1897, 1915, and 1926, when you were among us for a time. We hope and pray for at least one more such visit before you go out of harness as a full time chief in the Foreign Board offices.

You will be among those chiefly grieving at this time over the calamity that has been precipitated so unexpectedly and needlessly on these beloved Far Eastern lands. You know Japan so well that you will not need to be assured that it is but a small minority in this land who are reproachable with nationalistic pride and greed in their relations with neighbor nations. The common people in Japan go about their daily avocations almost as unmoved as the Chinese themselves, although a portion of the responsible authorities and the chauvinistic daily press are practising all possible devices to misinform and deceive and inflame the popular mind----and in this are unfortunately succeeding in a measure as the trouble is prolonged from week to week. We feel confident that you and many at headquarters and throughout the church at home are uniting with us in daily prayer for a speedy return to sanity, modesty, justice and mercy.

Lest this letter should be suppressed, not by the Japanese censorship in these uncertain times, but by the more to be feared R.E.S. himself, I am taking the precaution of forwarding a carbon copy to Dr. C. B. McAfee that the Board may know just what this Mission is saying, though so very imperfectly, through one of its older members, in recognition of the Senior Secretary's 40 years of unbroken service in preparing the way of the people, casting up the highway, gathering out the stones, and lifting up an ensign for the peoples.

In affectionate rejoicing that you continue in such strength and praying for a long continuance of all spiritual and physical blessing,

Yours faithfully,

J. G. Dunlop

STACY L. ROBERTS
PYENGYANG,
KOREA

Korea Mission

of the
Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

THE
PRESBYTERIAN
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

D. Speer

NOV 5 1931

44 Alexander St
Princeton N.J.
Nov 3 15 1931.

Dear Dr. Speer:-

We read with great interest, in The N.Y. Times this morning, of the meeting held yesterday - celebration of the 40th anniversary of your great work. We missionaries might not be able to express so ably and eloquently our appreciation of you and your service, as was expressed yesterday, but we, who in many cases our first interest is the cause of foreign missions to you and during all our missionary careers have been guided and inspired by your leadership, praise God for the 40 years of service He has granted you and pray that the years to come may continue to be full of richest blessing, which shall result in great peace and joy in your own heart and continue to outflow in blessing upon us.

Mrs. Roberts joins me in sending congratulations and best wishes. Sincerely yours
Stacy L. Roberts.

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#1118 West New Street,
Lancaster, Pa., Nov. 3, 1931.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
#156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, N. Y.,
Dear Dr. Speer:

Through a letter from Dr. A. R. Bartholomew I learned that you have completed forty years of service as a Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions. Allow me to offer you my humble, but heartfelt congratulations. What wonderful changes have taken place in missionary countries during that interval! The consciousness that under God you and Mrs. Speer had no small part in bringing about that transformation must be a source of profound joy and satisfaction to you both.

As I myself began my career as a missionary to Japan in Oct., 1892, next year, if the Lord spares my life, I too shall round out a full forty years of service.

Wishing both you and Mrs. Speer many more years of increasing usefulness in this great work, I remain,

Yours very truly,
Henry K. Miller
Henry K. Miller.

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at Flatiron Bldg., New York City

1931 NOV 2 AM 9

NJ40 6=CLIFTONSPRINGS NY 2 900A

ROBERT SPEER=

156 FIFTH AVE=

Tr

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER
10	

SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS FORTY YEARS SPLENDID SERVICE=

EDITH DICKIE.

Received at Flatiron Bldg., New York City

NBH162 11=NEWYORK NY 2 1135A

ROBERT SPEERS, CARE FOREIGN BOARD=

156 FIFTH AVE=

112

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER
4	

WITH MANY MANY OTHERS I GIVE THANKS FOR YOUR FORTY YEARS=

JEAN K MACKENZIE.

Lloyd S Ruland

West Presbyterian Church

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

MINISTERS

LLOYD STANTON RULAND

GEORGE L. GRIDLEY, JR.

November 2,
1931.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
Board of Foreign Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Dr. Speer:

I cannot refrain from sending you a personal word of congratulation upon completing your forty years of service with our foreign board. As one who saw seven years of service in the foreign field and who is still a foreign missionary at heart, I want to tell you how much your own devotional life and your foreign missionary interest have meant to me. Your emphasis upon the evangelistic work in all our religious work, coupled with a generous tolerance of other view points, has done so much to keep our mission program and the work of our entire church upon an even keel.

May you have many more years of active and influential service for our Church.

Very sincerely yours,

Lloyd S. Ruland

LSR/T

KC 123 20 NM=TOPEKA KANS 1

DR ROBERT E SPEER=

156 FIFTH AVE NEWYORK NY=

CONGRATULATE YOU UPON YOUR FOUR DECADES OF CONTINUOUS
SERVICE IN THE GREATEST AND MOST IMPORTANT WORK OF THE AGE=

W. H. HASTON WITCHISON.

NOV 20 1931

Dia de los Muertos (all Souls Day.) 1931

15

Dr. Rott. & Spear
156 Fifth Ave. N.Y.

Wm

Dear "Bobby Spear":

That is the friendlier way in which you
 have been affectionately mentioned for many years in
 mission circles. That I have never used it "to your face",
 the 40 years of service as Secretary of the Board which
 you complete today rank the affectionate popularity
 which you have achieved among young & old in all the
 Churches justify the "confianza", as we say in Spanish -
 Just a few days ago I completed my 41 years of service
 in Mexico. ~~and~~, ^{the date of my arrival on the field} ~~not long after~~ you were personally
 conducted, as Mr. Ellinwood's successor, by father, in
 his linen duster, among the churches of the Laguna,
 that period calls up images of Treasurer Rankin in the
 23rd. building of Mr. Gillespie etc, of the "innocent 80's".
 This ^{note} carries with it my heartiest congratulations, and
 my heart's desire that you and my Union Sem. class -
 mates & comrades Mac Afee may conclude your term of
 active service in the Board in brilliant team work
 and ^{in the} dashing style proper ^{to} such a brace of youngsters.

I am now planning to retire next April and
 am corresponding with Rep. Wheeler on the subject - But
 it will only be to change my form of active service
 in the Kingdom, ^{and} as I hope, with increased usefulness -

With affectionate regards to Mrs. Spear -
 S.S.S. & afmo amigo; Will Wallace

Personal

Chagrin Falls, Ohio.
October 29, 1931.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Robert,

I see by The Advance that you are to be 40 years old as a Secretary next Monday. I would like to be at the reception planned, but since I cannot I send this letter of greetings.

I remember that out on the field the older men thought you were too much of a kid for the job when you were appointed, wondering what the the church was about, putting you up along with such veterans as Drs. Ellinwood, Gillespie and Mitchell. The younger men soothed them by pointing out you would be under good control, and you would grow older and gather experience in due time, which you seem to have done. Indeed Time is a remarkable developer enabling choice spirits to equal and even surpass their predecessors in experience and usefulness.

I congratulate you for staying with the cause of foreign missions for forty years. It is unpopular with quite a large number of even Christian people, who have not discerned its ~~its~~ importance - the very greatest world movement of our times. You have been in the heart of it, have seen it grow, reach its zenith, with the Church of Christ firmly rooted among all the nations and ready to spread, while foreign missions may henceforth occupy a place of secondary importance. The great victory has been won in the last forty years, and you have had a very important part in it not only for our church but for all the churches. I know you have had anxieties and troubles a plenty, opposition a plenty, problems a plenty and labors a plenty, but I am glad you have stuck by the Cause and ^{are} still sticking tight. I have oftener wondered how you kept your health, as you seem to be vigorous notwithstanding your three score and ten(!), and your long years of laborious service. May God continue to have you in His keeping and grant you strength for the service you have yet to render. Mrs. Fulton joins in best wishes. I have not been so well recently but am improving again.

P.S. I see I have not mentioned Mrs. Speer in this, but everyone knows she is wholly responsible for all our progress & greatness.

Very Cordially,

George W. Fulton.

EASTERN CANADA CHINESE MISSION

153

師牧林威那
REV. W. D. MOYES D. D.

PHONE JUNCTION 6331
127 PACIFIC AVE., TORONTO 9, ONT.
October 27th 1931.

113

Dear Dr. Speer:-

Dr Armstrong tells me he is to be in New York soon. He has mentioned that you celebrate your fortieth anniversary as a Board Secretary soon. It is not many men who reach such an age in such a service. It must bring to me a feeling of joy to feel that he has been able to accomplish much for the advancement of the Kingdom of God in the New York Times. I noted the other day that the Presbyterian Board of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. had the most for flying battle line of any Board. It also mentioned the fact that to those on this for flying line broadcasts are being given and that messages can be sent through you. It gave me a start to think how different communication with the ends of the earth is now from what it was forty years ago.

It must be a great pleasure to you to have - you as head of a great religious educational centre.

I have always remembered how kind you have been to members of our family especially to my Aunt Martha who was honored as I remember by going up to Lienchow when you went. I remember very distinctly your kindness when I called at the office in 1919 after finding Mary had tuberculosis. She seems to have fully recovered. But you at that time put hope and joy into my heart. I regret not knowing your anniversary was so close at hand or I would have put it in words spoken the other days with every best wish. Yours very sincerely Will.

R. E. Speer

C. Kovacs

NOV 24 1931

ans. _____

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Ave.
New York City.

Bory, Madaroyce
9-th. Nov. 1931.

My dear Sir:-

From a far away country I am sending you my best wishes and congratulation on the 40-th anniversary of your services as a secretary of the Board of Foreign Mission.

I am that Hungarian student, who through your favor was studying in The McCormick Seminary.

May God bless you and your work. I am

sincerely yours

C. Kovacs

Rev. C. Kovacs

HGA109 50 NL=QN CARLISLE PENN 1

ROBERT E SPEER=

156 FIFTH AVE NEWYORK NY=

DID NOT SEE THE NOTICE OF YOUR FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY IN
PRESBYTERIAN UNTIL THIS AFTERNOON WIFE AND I SEND YOU
WARMEST GREETINGS I REMEMBER WITH PLEASURE THOSE EARLIER
YEARS AND THE SATISFACTORY HANDLING OUR MISSION AFFAIRS HAD
FROM YOU AT ONE TIME MAY YOU HAVE MANY YEARS MORE OF SERVICE
FRATERNALLY=

CHAS E ECKELS.

G A Landis

G. A. Landis
52 N. Michigan Ave.
Pasadena, Calif.

Pasadena, Calif
Dec. 3rd 1931.

Robert E. Speer, D.D., Secretary of
The Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions,
155 Fifth Avenue, N. York City.
Dear Dr. Speer:

Allow us (Mrs. Landis + myself) to congratulate -
late you, on your forty years of devoted and
blessed service to the cause of making known
the Gospel to all nations.

We have pleasant recollections of your
serving as secretary of the Board, to our S.
Brazil Mission.

Our sincere desire + prayer is, that our
Lord + Master may give you many more
years to carry forward the important work
of making known Christ Jesus, the only savior
of the world.

With best wishes and Christian affection

We are Sincerely Yours,
G. A. Landis.

Wm N Blair

WILLIAM NEWTON BLAIR
PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
PYENGYANG, KOREA

WNB

Pyengyang, Korea,
December 9th. 1951.

E. Speer

C 28 1951

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York.

Dear Dr. Speer;

At a meeting of Pyengyang Station last night, I was instructed to send you a message of affectionate greetings from the Station and our hearty congratulations on your forty years of splendid service as secretary of our Board of Foreign Missions.

Doubtless you have been overwhelmed with messages of appreciation and congratulations. I am sure there are literally millions of people today who thank God for your life, - whose lives have been helped and inspired by your strong faith and your complete devotion of the high talents which God has given you to the cause of extending Christ's Kingdom throughout the earth.

We pray that God may richly bless you and give you strength for many years more of missionary leadership and that the knowledge of the love and admiration of us all may bring you added joy and power in your great service.

Sincerely and affectionately yours in behalf of
Pyengyang Station.

William N. Blair

Station Chairman.

PRINTING TO ORDER
FOR MISSION REQUIREMENTS
BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETIES
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Presbyterian Mission Press

135 North Szechuen Road

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Shanghai, C.I.

DEC 30 1931

DEC 21, 1931

JM

My dear Dr. Speer,

Just a brief line enclosed Christmas letter. As the years fly by the memories of long and very happy associations and inspiring fellowship draw out my heart to you, and I want to thank you for all the help you have been to me and so many. God bless you abundantly in all your life and work for Him.

My wife keeps the Sprue down with diet and "liver Kapsals." As her rheumatism developed seriously through the dampness at Brighton she has gone to the drier climate of Bexhill-on-Sea (Sussex).

Kindest greetings to Mrs. Speer and yourself.

As ever yours,

Gilbert M. McIntosh

R. E. Speer

James M. Rodgers

JAN 4 1932

Manila P.I. Dec. 9th. 1931

24

~~My dear Robert~~

Welcome to the company of the ancients-those who have been privileged to serve under the Board for forty years. We congratulate ourselves and you on this new bond between us and the rest of the oldtimers. Long may we flourish!

What a privilege it has been to be a part however small in this wonderful enterprise and how glad we are that your part has been so large.

I wonder if you feel as I do some perplexity as to how we can best serve during this last term of active service. Shall we be enabled to go on in full strength or must we change our form of service and find some other way of expressing our loyalty to the King and the Kingdom, and gradually transfer to younger shoulders many of the burdens we have carried.

We, that is the rest of us, thank God for your splendid years of service. May the next decade be richer still.

Affectionately Yours,

James M. Rodgers

Samuel A. Moffitt

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

KOREA MISSION

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

PYENGYANG, KOREA

OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN

JPO

RESOLUTIONS

God in his redeeming love has made the past century one of the greatest in history because of world-wide Christian Missions. Multitudes of young people have been recruited for the evangelization of the world. Missionary leaders have been called forth. Mission Boards have secured funds. The Gospel has been preached in hundreds of languages and Christian Mission Institutions have been established throughout the nations. Korea, especially has been greatly blessed through modern missions.

The Chosen Mission upon this the Fortieth Anniversary of the services of Robert E. Speer, D.D., L.L.D. as Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. delights to join with Christian friends throughout the world in recognizing the remarkable leadership of Dr. Speer in the great progress of this missionary century and thankfully acknowledges the debt of this mission and the Church of Chosen to his unwavering faith, his wise leadership, his inspiring messages and personal helpfulness.

Wishing him great joy in his own personal life and many more years of fruitful service, the Executive Committee in behalf of the whole Mission extends most cordial congratulations with the assurance of our prayers for him that he ~~have~~ continued health and enjoy ^{every} spiritual blessing.

For the Executive Committee.

Samuel A. Moffitt
Chairman.

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"HE PROFITS MOST WHO SERVES BEST"

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December 24th 1931

Dr Robert E Speer
 Presbyterian Board of Missions
 Fifth Avenue N Y City

My dear Dr Speer /

I have been reading in the papers received by this weeks mail so many well earned appreciations of the service you have rendered to Christian work throughout the World, during the forty years that you have devoted to the post you hold officially, that it has moved me to add my "dot" to the panegyric.

We may be afar off when you think of us in Fifth Avenue, but for a' that many of us remember your visits to our countries and continent, and many of us, when we get talking reminiscently, recall the helpful contributions to our improvement which your visits have made.

"Forty years" is a sonorous phrase when one gets throwing it about as a presentation of "something attempted, something done". I am almost in that class myself without the "done" qualification!

I missed you in New York last summer when I was moving around all over the country in connection with the Y M C A Conventions, but as I return from Seattle next June I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you somewhere.

Just now I am programming a visit to most of our West Coast republics, Honolulu, and finally Seattle, in connection with our Rotary organization, which is always an attempt to make things better than they might otherwise be.

Accept my cordial felicitaciones — pnes for the fine record which those Forty Years constitute, and my best wishes that 1932 may bring with it all the Happinness you could plan for yourself and yours

Sincerely and Faithfully

H P Coates

Chairman of the South American Federation of Y M C

Hotel Tudor, NYC.

Nov. 3. 1931

Dear Dr. Speer:

You do not need any
 of post facto assertion or
 assumption on my part. It
 is almost impossible for me
 either to see or hear at any
 such gathering as that of
 yesterday to do you honor. You
 will not know how much, I
 regret my inability or failure
 to stand on the side lines yes,
 today afternoon, and add a silent
 tribute to one whose friendship
 I prize beyond words.

But here's my sincere

EB

EDWIN M. BULKLEY
TWENTY-FIVE BROAD STREET
NEW YORK

October 28, 1931.

My dear Rob;

You and Lucy have been indulging in most serious correspondence of late, in which - most unfortunately for me - no share has been had.

What is weighing upon my mind, among other things, and that very grievously, is your anniversary. I fear I never was possessed of a spirit of resignation, which surely I am without at so all significant a time.

I would so love, as would all of your friends, to have the rounding out of the forty years commemorated in a permanent and altogether worthy way, but there are difficulties; some which are not well to be controlled by us, and others set up by you.

You will, at least, know where our hearts are, and always will be found.

I hope that Lucy may be with me next Monday afternoon, for the affair, whatever order it may take.

Ever devotedly yours,

E. M. Bulkley

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
New York, N.Y.

P.S. If Constance is already in Baltimore, will you let your office give me her address? Katharine would be very much interested in looking up, and doing for Constance in any way possible.

EDWIN M. BULKLEY
TWENTY FIVE BROAD STREET
NEW YORK

November 4, 1931.

My dear Rob;

An apology is due you and Emma that Lucy and I did not take places upon the line, and have the pleasure of greeting at tea.

Lucy was somewhat exhausted, even before the gathering in your honor, and an engagement in Englewood compelled starting homeward without delay.

The tributes offered by your friends were all very lovely, but suffering upon your part could not be escaped.

We make the move to town today, and hope it may not be long before we may claim Emma and you at 320, which may be our last year of residence there. Lease will expire with another October after which we are not now prepared to say, what may be the best plan.

We shall grievously miss Mamie and Stephen, but shall not allow them to lose sight of us.

Ever affectionately,



Dr. Robert E. Speer,
New York, N.Y.

P.S. Dr. Mott certainly suggested some very serious tasks, and plenty of them.

I do wish that the biography of Dr. Alexander might be written; but even if you were to undertake, cannot see the call for another record of Mr. Dwight L. Moody. Well as Will did his work, the book has been very little in demand.

HENRY CHAPMAN SWEARINGEN, MINISTER

RAYMOND G. FLETCHER, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

R. BUCHANAN MORTON
ORGANIST & DIRECTOR OF

SECRETARIES
MISS MARIAN DUNNING
MISS CAROLINE CLARK

House of Hope Presbyterian Church

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

October 29, 1931

Robert E. Speer, D.D., LL.D.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Robert:-

Am so sorry that I cannot be present on November 2nd to express personally my appreciation of the invitation which the Board sent me and my deep interest and joy in the fortieth anniversary of your association with our Board of Foreign Missions. Am enclosing copy of my letter to the Board which may give you some inkling as to how I feel. You are a dear fellow and I pray God's richest blessing upon you.

Faithfully yours,

H. C. Swearingen

Henry Chapman Swearingen

Dictated, but not read, by H. C. Swearingen.
Signed, in his absence, at his direction.

HCS CC

enc.

HENRY CHAPMAN SWEARINGEN, MINISTER

RAYMOND G. FLETCHER, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

R. BUCHANAN M
ORGANIST & DIRECTOR

SECRETARIES:
MISS MARIAN DUNNING
MISS MARJORIE ALLSTROM

RECEIVED

NOV 2 1931

C. H. FENN

House of Hope Presbyterian Church

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

October 29, 1931

The Board of Foreign Missions,
156 Fifth Ave,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Brethren:-

Permit me to thank you for the gracious invitation to attend the fortieth anniversary of Dr. Speer's official connection with the Board. He has been a great figure, not only in our church, but throughout the entire world where men are interested in obeying the Saviour's commission "to preach the Gospel to every creature". It is a joy to work with him, an honor to claim him as a personal friend and a blessing to feel the inspiration of his noble spirit and wide outlook. God bless him and continue to make him a blessing to the Board, the Church and the cause of Christian discipleship throughout the earth.

Most cordially yours,

H. C. Swearingen

Henry Chapman Swearingen
Dictated, but not read, by Dr. Swearingen.
Signed, in his absence, at his direction.

HCS CC

165
R
NOV
THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OFF

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

GEORGE W. RIGHTMIRE, PRESIDENT

COLUMBUS

October 16, 1931

WILLIAM OXLEY THOMPSON
PRESIDENT EMERITUS
RESIDENCE, 55 WOODLAND AVENUE

My dear Dr. Edman:-

I have just-written a note to
Dr. Speer concerning the recog-
nition meeting, Nov. 2, 1931.

It is a matter of my sincere
regret to me that I shall not
be able to be present.

I am writing this brief note to
you as President of the Board.

I have expressed briefly to Dr.
Speer something as to my
feeling in which I am

sure thousands of our
best citizens would join.

He has rendered an outstanding
service with a spiritual insight
and leadership rarely equaled.

I expressed to him the hope that the
next decade would see
many of his desires real-
ized.

I trust you may

R. E. Speer, W. O. Thompson and

OCT 19 1931

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

GEORGE W. RIGHTMIRE, PRESIDENT

COLUMBUS October 16, 1931.

Ans. WILLIAM OXLEY THOMPSON
PRESIDENT EMERITUS
RESIDENCE, 55 WOODLAND AVENUE

My dear Dr. Speer:-

I find myself wondering whether you or indeed any one will be able to appreciate the happiness of mind your thousands of friends are experiencing as they consider the service you have rendered during the forty years you have served in the Foreign Board. In all this there is nothing of envy, jealousy or ill will. I can not imagine a service where a supporting constituency has had less reason for criticism or where the general confidence of the church has been more abiding.

No doubt you have carried burdens of administration on the field of which the church had a very limited and often a mistaken point of view. Notwithstanding all these situations the forty years will long

Herbert K Caskey

To E. Speer

DEC 7 1911

HERBERT K. CASKEY
34 LAWRENCE PLACE
ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

Dec. 31.
/31.

My Dear Robert —

The recent celebration of your fortieth anniversary has interested and pleased me immensely. I do not want it to go by without adding my heartiest congratulations, love and good wishes.

While listening to Dr. Greenell a few days ago, from the radio, I tried to picture to myself the amazing changes he has seen in Labrador, and then thought that while his field has been decidedly local, yours has been world wide, and in many places the gains have been

Saturday
31 Oct 1931

169

903 AMBERSON AVENUE
PITTSBURGH PENNSYLVANIA

Dear Dr. Speer -

First of all it is our wish to send kindest greetings to you on your birthday (Sabbath) means many years of service in your wonderful work - and I am sure Mrs. Speer is even more proud of you than we are! We are proud to call you "friend" -

The book I arrived safely - also the "Cushman letters" - Thank you for both -

Our "mission study" (Korea) this year proves very interesting - in fact - as you doubtless well know - we cannot study under our Dr. Kerr - ^{and} fail to be a worker - Mabel is well and busy - building a country home in Maryland - and many more - are happy in all - You and Mrs. Speer must never come to our city without

Waverly Presbyterian Church

Braddock Avenue and Forbes Street

PITTSBURGH, PA.

THOS. C. PEARS, JR.
308 EAST END AVENUE

November 10, 1931

Dear Dr. Speer,

Your letter received, and I will take up the matter with Dr. McEwan immediately.

It was a lovely day at Huntington, the souvenir of which will long remain in my memory. The Pageant was extremely well conceived, and I am only sorry that Mrs. Hiltner received no public recognition. The singing of Mrs. Louie had the same effect on me which you describe. I was impressed also by the manner in which all the parts of the program worked in together into a whole, and I cannot help but think that the total impression on those present must have made a powerful appeal for the Missionary cause. The high point was reached in your address, but the Pageant did not dissipate the effect. I was asked afterwards if I thought that you should have come last. I said that I was convinced that the only proper order had been followed. You came when the people were fresh and eager with expectation to hear you, and I believe that it was the strategic point on the program.

171
Waverly Presbyterian Church

Braddock Avenue and Forbes Street

PITTSBURGH, PA.

- 2 -

ARS, JR.
AVENUE

If I embarrassed you by rising to offend, I can only remind you that Dr. Downs had just finished talking of your fortieth Anniversary, and it seemed fitting that at this meeting in your own home church, there should be a public opportunity to express the love and honor in which you are held. If you feel that it was out of place, I offer this as my apology.

Please permit me to take advantage of this opportunity to add to all the others, the expression of my own deep appreciation of all that you have meant to the cause of Christ in our generation, and to me personally. I know that you shrink from praise, but it may be of interest to you to know that I am one of a wide circle to whom your life has been an inspiration, but who are largely unknown to you, and must remain inarticulate. And please do not think me guilty of flattery or speaking without knowledge when I tell you that I think of you as reincarnating the authentic spirit of the Lovies and Eliza P. Swift. Pray God, He may not let the succession fail!

Realizing the hundreds of letters which you must be receiving, let me suggest that this letter does not call for an answer.

Sincerely your friend
Thos. C. Pears, Jr.

CHARLES CARROLL ALBERTSON
952 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

11-2-31
Dear Robert: I regret I could
not remain for the Social
tonight this afternoon. But
it was good to sit in
with the friends, and to hear
their words! If you are tempted
to regard these words as
merely official and perfunctory,
be assured that nothing
was said in your presence
which would not have been
said had you not been
there to hear.

A full and fruitful
forty years you have had
with the Board. May you
add

R. E. Speer

Geo P. Pierson

NOV 8 1931

THE MORRIS APARTMENTS
311 SO. 13TH STREET
PHILADELPHIA

173
November 6. 1931

Ans. _____

Robert E. Speer: Dearly beloved,

I wanted to go to New York last Monday and tell you what I thought of you, but my old classmate Lew Scudder came to luncheon with us and so I could attend only in intellectual sed non in re. We had a fine missionary in Japan, named Estelle Finch, who once wrote us "I hope I shall be assigned to the same planet with you" Now that's the way I feel about you on this planet and about any future place of abode - rather activity; for the man with five talents and the man with two talents after their Lord's ^{had plenty to do; they} return were assigned "rulers over many things". We are learning daily more and more about the outstretchings of the Universe. Then there are the "days of Heaven" - did you ever speak on that theme? What an unthinkably bewildering future! But I'm thinking of the happy past just now and recalling those golden years in Japan. Isn't it a happy thing that the so-called "problems", the mud and tire; the salt fish and cold feet - not to mention various and sundry ^{other} trying things - fade out of the scene and only the bright days and great meetings and the high points remain in one's memory.

I am not going to attempt a diagnosis of your gifts and graces for fear lest you should stop reading this note - as I believe your practice is to decline letters of recommendation. You'll not mind my saying, however, what a stimulant you have been to me and what a thankworthy thing I take it to be that you were chosen to

My dear Doctor Speer: -

As I look back over
forty years I remember the
times when you came to
Brown Memorial to preach,
and how gradually you
made foreign missions real
to me. I thank you for
that, and for standing for
the eternal verities to me for
all these years.

With best wishes,

Sincerely, Ann T. Reid.

Dr. Avison called to offer his congratulations on your
Fortieth anniversary and to wish for you another forty
years of good and comfortable service.

Dr. Avison regrets his not being able to remain over
for the afternoon.

Huntingdon Penna Nov 4: 1931

M

Dear Rob:-

My most heartfelt
congratulations upon your long
record of great success in
the Master's work.

Your home town, and old friends
are certainly very proud of you.

Greatly regret my impaired
hearing make it impossible for
me to have the pleasure of hearing
you tomorrow.

Please accept enclosed little check
as a slight expression of my
interest in your great work.

10 to B
Jens

With very best regards, -

Yours sincerely
Alex. Anderson

317 Washington St. Providence
R.I. Nov. 4th 1931

Dr Robert E. Speer.
156 Fifth Ave.

Dear Dr Speer,

I chanced to see in a
New York City paper the other day,
that an anniversary was to be
celebrated of your coming to the
Foreign Missions Board as Secretary.

I have always felt so strong an
interest in the work of the two Boards,
that it almost seems as though I
had been connected with both. How
could it be different, while living
under the Pastorate of Dr Alexander

for forty four years - and also living
so near 156 Fifth Ave, as to be very
frequently at the meetings held there.

Also the University Place church had
Mrs Prentiss of blessed memory, who
was President of the Women's Board
for many years.

So I think I am quite entitled to
offer very sincere congratulations
to you, upon completing so many
useful years, - & in it, to the service
of Foreign Missions, through the
Presbyterian Board. I am sorry not
to be able to attend the appreciative
service - (whatever it is) for the stringency
of the times causes my absence from
New York to be prolonged, regretfully.

Very Sincerely
(Miss) Lydia S. Gould.

177
40 Seawingide Ave,
New York City.
Nov. 4. 1931

My dear Dr. Speer

It was a delight to read in
the paper last evening of the reception
given in your honor. We would have liked
to have been there but of course the invitation
could not be extended without the meeting
being held at Madison Square Garden! But
instead of having the pleasure and honor of
attending the reception, our whole family were

address that greatly influenced me. Your prayers
brought Irene and myself together, and your
wise guidance and helpfulness have greatly
influenced us. How greatly we are indebted
to you!

With deep affection, D. Speer, and
with prayers that God may grant you
many more years to lead and in-
spire us, we are,

Yours sincerely

Irene Mason and Webster

packing their Indian costumes and going
to Newark to make more contacts and
another appeal to the Church for loyal support
from Board in these days when your burdens
are so heavy.

The personal indebtedness of Irene
and myself to you is very great, Dr. Speer,
and your love and affection have greatly blessed
us in our home life and work. It was nearly
thirty-eight years ago that I first heard you
address the Essex County C. E. Union in an

SIR WM. WANLESS, KT., M. D.

630 EAST FERN AVENUE

REDLANDS, CALIFORNIA

October 14th/31

My dear Robert -

In the "New York Times" which I picked up in the Redlands library yesterday I pleased of the reception given you on the occasion of your sixty fourth birthday and the fortieth anniversary of your

2
forming the Board.

May I wish you many
happy returns of your
birth day and my
most hearty congratulations
on the fortieth anniversary
as a secretary of the
Board!

How much God has per-
mitted you to crowd into
those forty years!

3/ May our Divine Master
himself continue to enrich your
life, and others through
your service and ministry,
as He has in the past.

This is my earnest prayer
for you as I am thinking
of you on this happy and
auspicious occasion.

May it be your great
privilege to enjoy many
such happy occasions.

4
as I feel sure this ^{one} must
have been. The lady joins
me most heartily in these
congratulations.

We sincerely hope that
this does not mean retirement.

You have earned that many
times over but but I cannot
conceive of anyone for a moment
even suggesting that.

The Master must surely have
still much that He would
have you do for Him.

with our united and
sincerest greetings

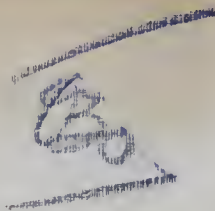
Ever your affectionate friend
to yours
Wm. L. Moore

Ephesians 2: 15, 16.

R. E. Speer

25 EAST 22ND STREET
NEW YORK CITY

OCT 30 1931



Ans. _____

Oct. 29, 1931

My dear W. Speer:—

Word has reached me that the Board of Foreign Missions is rejoicing because you have been a Secretary in it for forty years. I want to use the opportunity to say just a word of joy that God has used you with telling power in the Christian life of the world. Some of us cannot walk with the great strides of your devotion to the Master's ideals. But we have been inspired by you and tried to follow. We are grateful to God for your strength and achievement.

You mean far more than you know
to

Mrs. Huntington

Shadyside Presbyterian Church
Pittsburgh

HUGH THOMSON KERR, D.D. PASTOR
827 AMBERSON AVENUE

October 31, 1931

My dear Robert:

You will be among your friends today who will be congratulating you and acclaiming your significant service for the Church and for the Kingdom. I will be there but you will not see me and I will be responding to all that is said of appreciation and gratitude and love for what you are and have been, for what you have done and are going to do, but there will be something left unsaid which means more than all that can be said or sung.

It is good to rejoice and glory in the past. You have done more than anyone else to create that past and to set the Church on the high road of missionary service. But better than the past is the present and we are grateful that you are still out on the highway, calling to the rest of us to follow, and that your name is loved and honored in all the churches. For what you have done and for what you have been through all these

forty years we thank God and take courage for the future. May God bless and keep you and those whom you love through the good years that are yet to be.

Yours very sincerely,

Hugh

To Father Abraham

from

HUGH THOMSON KERR

Isaac & Rebecca

Shady Side Presbyterian Church

With much love

Ralph B. Nesbitt 117 Julip St.,

Summit, N. J.

October 29, 1931.

R. E. Speer

NOV 2 1931

Dear Dr. Speer:

This is just a note to express to you and the Board the appreciation of Mrs. Nesbitt and myself at the settlement of our travel account etc. as has been done. A just and right settlement I believe has been made. It is our hope and prayer that we may now be able to serve here effec-

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. SPEER

Dr. Robert E. Speer today completes forty years of service as Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church U. S. A. After his graduation from Princeton University and Princeton Theological Seminary he began his life work as Secretary of the Board and during all these years his devotion and loyalty have never known doubt nor change. He is today the outstanding missionary leader in the world and has influenced more young men and young women to missionary service than probably any living man. His name is known throughout the churches at home and abroad and his leadership has been a blessing and a benediction to the Presbyterian Church, as well as to other denominations. We thank God for him and in extending our congratulations we pray that his life and health may be precious in God's sight and that the years to come may be even more richly blessed than those which have passed into history.

Brooklyn Bulletin Nov 31

RECEIVED

OCT 19 1931

C. H. FENN

LONGWOOD TOWERS
BROOKLINE, MASS.

Dr. James L. Barton
Oct. 18-31

Dear Brethren:

I keenly regret my inability to be present on Nov. 2 to express by my presence my high appreciation of what Dr. Speer has been to me during the four decades of his notable example and devoted service to the cause of the Kingdom on earth.

All greetings to him and hearty congratulations to his Board, that this occasion is an "All hail" and not a farewell.

Cordially Yours,
James L. Barton

B 1931

WILLIAM HIRAM FOULKES
OLD FIRST CHURCH
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

183

FENN

October fifteenth,
1 9 3 1.

To the Board of Foreign Missions,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear friends:

Your gracious invitation to take part in the recognition of the Fortieth Anniversary of the election of your Senior Secretary, Dr. Robert E. Speer, is gratefully acknowledged.

My regret is keen and deep that on account of my presence in Kansas City that day conducting one of the conferences on Spiritual Emphasis, carried on under the direction of the General Council, I shall be unable to be present. For many years, Dr. Speer has been to me the noblest and most capable Christian leader of our day and I see no reason to change my characterization.

Very faithfully yours,

William Hiram Foulkes
William Hiram Foulkes

WPF.JEG

November 2nd, 1931.

Dear Robert:

It is good to see you getting a little more time on the place at Lakeville - you will need it to lengthen these forty years out to forty-five!

As a little expression of our admiration and love, Mrs. Carter and I would like to add this new variety of gladiola (named Robert Treat) that took first prize, blue ribbon, at the gladiola exhibit in New York last July - grown by an old friend.

Russell

Sad but true!

DISCOVERED AT LAST - THE REASON

WHY ROBERT SPEER HAS FAILED TO MAKE GOOD!

"The hand that rocks the cradle"-but there now is no such hand!
'Tis bad to rock the Baby! we would have you understand;
The cradle is a relic of the bygone foolish days,
When mothers reared their children in such unscientific ways;-
When they jounced them, bounced them, trounced them, these dwarfs of
Such as CARY, CHALMERS, MONTE, JUDSON, LIVINGSTONE, you know. long ago →

We're cautioned that the baby will possess a muddled brain
If we dandle him or rock him. We must carefully refrain.
He must lie in one position, never swayed and never swung,
Or his chance to grow to greatness will be blasted while he's young.
Oh to think how they were ruined by their mothers long ago! —
HUDSON TAYLOR, SEURTON, HALLIN, and MORRISON you know!

We must always feed the baby with a formula they state.
All his food must be by schedule, if you'd have him strong and great.
He may bellow to inform us that he isn't satisfied,
But he'll ^{not} reach ~~be~~ super-manhood if his wants are all supplied.
Think how foolish nursing stunted those poor weaklings long ago, —
MARTIN LUTHER, KNOX and MOODY, LAWS and CHAMBERLAIN, you know.

Now at last we know the reason why we've suffered from a dearth
Of strong missionary leaders. None were guarded from their birth.
Whiskered dads will spread infection, - how we shudder at the thought;
Mother's milk is unhygienic, and as brain food counts for naught.
Oh the fruit of cradle rocking! - whistling morons - don't you know, —
GILMOUR, PATON, SCIDDER, HALSEY, and ROBERT SPEER, - OH! OH!

Compliments of Mr. and Mrs. Delavan L. Pierson
with apologies to Bishop Doane.

November 2, 1931.

RECEIVED
Cooperation of Woman's Boards of Foreign Missions of North America

Mrs. Howard Wayne Smith

President, Mrs. Howard Wayne Smith
411 Walnut Avenue, Ardmore, Pa.

Miss Florence G. Tyler, Executive Secretary
419 Fourth Avenue, New York City
Telephone: Caledonia 5-1271

Treasurer, Mrs. Frank Gaylord Cook
44 Garden Street, Cambridge, Mass.

C. H. FENN

Oct. 31. 1931

Board of Foreign Missions
Presbyterian Church in U. S. A.
New York - N. Y.

RECEIVED
NOV - 2 1931
PRESBYTERIAN FOREIGN BOARD
TREASURER'S OFFICE

Dear Friends,

It is a matter of sincere regret to me that I am unable to be present at the reception of the forthright anniversary of the election of Dr. Robert E. Speer as Secretary of your Board, and therefore I

hope of his own Commission will be no testimony as to the distinguished service of Dr. Speer to the Churches. His influence has been felt, however,

DR. ROBERT ELLIOTT SPEER

The name of Dr. Robert E. Speer is known better than any other among the friends of missions throughout the entire Christian Church. He is the most beloved as well as the most trusted and influential missionary secretary in the world today. It is a great privilege for the writer to pay tribute to such a great servant of Christ and outstanding leader in the cause of world-wide Christianity. Multitudes of students during the closing years of last century and the beginning of this century were definitely led to dedicate their lives to service for Christ in foreign fields through Dr. Speer's addresses. The undersigned is one of those who owes more than he can express to the influence of Dr. Speer's life and public work.

Throughout the twenty-five years that I have been in secretarial service I have looked with admiration upon Dr. Speer as one of the sanest, most devoted and efficient Christian leaders in North America. He is easily the foremost missionary secretary of the Mission Boards and Societies of North America and Europe.

His books, which have been produced in amazing quantity, have stimulated us all to higher ideals and to harder work. One can only hope that God will spare him in health and strength for another score of years that he may continue to contribute so helpfully and through so many lines of activity to the life of the Christian Church and especially to its task of world-wide evangelization.

We all love him for his personal qualities and leadership as we look up to him for guidance in matters of missionary policy and apologetics.

156 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK

Lily-of-the-Valley.

Lily of the valley,
Lily of the hills,
Lily of the deep wood,
Lily by the rills.

Simple is thy beauty,
Yet 'tis unsurpassed;
Charming is thy fragrance,
Full long doth it last.

Dainty bells in clusters
From thy bulb-roots spring;
Silent though their pealing,
Clear and sweet they ring.

Emblem of a white life,
Shaming sin and wrong;
Blessing with its influence,
Fair and pure and strong.

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My dear Dr. Speer: ^{Wm J W Carey}

This message to you,
comes from "one of the least"
but I do want to add my
congratulations to those which
you are receiving from friends
all over the world. Also, my
sincere appreciation of the
very splendid leadership
which you have given to us
for these forty years. We

116 EAST SIXTY-EIGHTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

Nov. 9, 1931

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Speer:

I want to send
a word of personal thanks
for the welcome check and
of congratulation on the
forty years of such wonderful
service - in the Foreign Miss-
ionary Field. - Wishing you both
many years more of fruitful service
- Most cordially, Kate V.S. O'Connell

C. M. Taylor for Dr. Wishart

THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER
WOOSTER, OHIO

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

RECEIVED

OCT 18 1931

C. H. FENN

October 14, 1931.

Board of Foreign Missions of the
Presbyterian Church in U.S.A.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

I regret to tell you that at the present time Dr. Wishart is in France on a little trip, from which he will probably not return until early in December. It will not be possible, therefore, for him to attend the recognition exercises in honor of Dr. Speer, on November 2.

I should like, in his absence, however, to extend for him hearty congratulations to Dr. Speer on the completion of forty years of such outstanding service.

With all cordial good wishes, I am

Yours very truly,

Curt M. Taylor

Assistant to the President.

CNT:rw

R. F. Sennington
283 W. Chestnut St. Glendale, Cal.
Nov. 10. 1931.

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NOV 16 1931
Dear Dr. Speer:

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~~Ans. The ladies at the~~ Presbyterial the other day spoke of your completing forty years with the Board, and offered fervent prayer for you. I too want to share in the joy of the Church in your being permitted to complete a period of years so useful to the cause of our Master, "ever speaking sweet messages for our dear Lord." God grant that your bow may ever abide in strength and that for many years we may still be privileged to rejoice in your virile service for humanity and in your blessed friendship for us who love you.

Will do I remember the tremendously heated discussions which went on the Seminary in Chicago, back in 1891, when you accepted the secretaryship. Some approved your action so heartily, because of the promise of service which has been so gloriously fulfilled; while others were just as vehement in their insistence that you, who had led so many to decide for the foreign field, should go yourself. It never troubled me, for I believed you had made your decision only after very heart-searching prayer. But I had so hoped you might go to Brazil and help that land. Poor Brazil mission which has been hit so hard this year. And the saddest part

C. N. Taylor for Dr. Wishart

THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER
WOOSTER, OHIO

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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Yours very truly,

Curt N. Taylor

Assistant to the President.

CNT:rw

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around, from Aimee Temple McPherson, with her mother, who, as one of the ~~old~~ dailies here put it, "not only picks her husbands off the ashheaps but even ordains them", to the Buddhists and Bahaists.

By the way, Dr. Speer, can you give me the title of some trustworthy book which meets authoritatively the cults of our day? As I go back to the Seminary in Brazil, I certainly do want to help them to fit themselves to cope with all these modern vagaries which the evil One has invented to lead men away from the truth. Any help you can give me in facing these next few years of service may be of inestimable value in the future ministry of Brazil. I will be so grateful to you.

Here I find my little letter of sympathy and rejoicing with you has gone on into a long letter. But I do want you to know how much I appreciate your friendship and that you are ever borne up on my prayers. May God give you His abundant power and so use you to His glory.

With very kindest regards to Mrs. Speer and yourself

yours very lovingly
R. F. Lemington.

Marcus A. Brownson

MARCUS A. BROWNSON
39 CONNECTICUT AVENUE
SOUTHERN PINES
NORTH CAROLINA

November 13, 1931

My dear Robert:

I have read with great interest, in The Presbyterian of this week, of the Celebration of your forty years of service in our Board of Foreign Missions and I desire to add my word of congratulation to the expressions of appreciation spoken in your hearing and doubtless written in letters you have received from every part of the Church at home and from many Mission fields. You are the best loved man in the Presbyterian Church and

I doubt not that many prayers
& thanks given to God for your
notable achievements in the extension
of our Master's Kingdom have
been offered.

It must be a profound satisfaction
to you to have enjoyed such signal
blessings of the Lord upon your
great work.

During the summer, at our
Cabin home in the Maine woods,
I read your book "in lighter vein", with
much amusement at its "tall stories,"
as Lowell Thomas would call them.
It took me back in remembrance to
the summer we spent at Camp Diamond
with you and Horace Coleman, John
Timothy Stone, Minot Morgan, William Henry
Grant and other old friends.

MARCUS A. BROWNSON
39 CONNECTICUT AVENUE
SOUTHERN PINES
NORTH CAROLINA

Our Summer home, since 1913, has been at Center Lovell, Maine, 14 miles in from Fryeburg and 24 miles South of Bethel, some six miles, "as the crow flies", directly opposite the New Hampshire State line at that point. We see the sun go down behind the tip of Mount Washington and we pick blueberries in our back yard (or did until the woods were cleaned up for a neighbor's house) and black bass in our front yard - the lake - and that is good enough for a foot man!

We enjoy our winter home at

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A. E. Armstrong
The United Church of Canada
Board of Foreign Missions

CHAIRMAN
REV. W. T. G. BROWN, D.D.

SECRETARIES
REV. JAMES ENDICOTT, D.D., LL.D.
REV. A. E. ARMSTRONG, D.D.
REV. JESSE H. ARNUP, D.D.

299 QUEEN ST. WEST
TORONTO 2, CANADA

CABLE ADDRESSES:
WESLEYANA, T
BUTEROS, TOR

RECEIVED

Oct. 16, 1931.

OCT 19 1931

C. H. FENN

Rev. George T. Scott, D.D.,
Board of Foreign Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, U.S.A.

My dear George,

I am in receipt of an invitation of your Board to attend the fortieth anniversary of the election of our dear friend Dr. Speer as Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board of your Church on November 2nd. I am hoping to be present for I very much want to be there not only as one who has looked up to and admired and gladly followed your esteemed colleague for twenty-five years during which I have been a missionary secretary but I would like also to be there since I have the honour at present to be Chairman of the Foreign Missions Conference.

I am hoping that Garside will set the meeting for the four C's Committee on either Nov. 2nd or 3rd, leaving the afternoon of the 2nd free. If so I shall certainly plan to be present and give myself the great pleasure of witnessing what will be a most delightful occasion, I am sure.

Cordially yours,

A. E. Armstrong

AEA/S

RECEIVED

NOV 2 1931

C. H. FENN

HOTEL MOSCOW

T. M. WRIGHT, PROPRIETOR
MOSCOW, IDAHO

Rev. Gilbert Powell

RECEIVED

NOV - 2 1931

PRESBYTERIAN FOREIGN BOARD
TREASURER'S OFFICE

The Board of Foreign Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Friends,

It would be a privilege to share in recognizing the fortieth anniversary of the election of Dr. Speer and I appreciate the invitation to do so.

Unfortunately I cannot be present at the occasion of the recognition but I wish to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the great influence which Dr. Speer has had on my own life for nearly forty years. It was an address of his which about forty years ago impelled me to

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think of the foreign mission
cause in such a way that
as a result I later decided
to go as a missionary.

I am sure that many
will desire to pay tribute
to one who has been
such a force in the Church
during the last forty years.

Sincerely yours,
Gilbert Lovell

FEE, RECD.

25 EAST 22ND STREET
NEW YORK CITY

15 1931

October 14, 1931

The Board of Foreign Missions,
Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.,
New York.

Dear Dr. McAfee:

I am sending through you my acceptance
of the kind invitation of the Presbyterian
Board to be present at the Reception to com-
memorate the fortieth anniversary of Dr. Speer's
service as Secretary on November 2nd.

It will be more than a pleasure to
join with the many friends of Dr. Speer on
this significant occasion that commemorates
so unique a service, not only to the Presby-
terian Church, but to all the American Churches
and to the great cause of Foreign Missions in
all lands.

Yours very sincerely,

W. J. ...

